DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol.XVIII, No. 1 Section 1 July 1, 1925

THE SECRETARY PREDICTS SUCCESSFUL DECADE

An Associated Press dispatch to-day from Butte, Mont., says: "Secretary of Agriculture William M. Jardine was given an enthusiastic welcome at Wisdom, Mont., June 29. He predicted the best ten years in the farming and stock industry will be the coming ten years, and that the present year will witness the greatest crop yield in Montana and other Western States since 1919. He spoke of the imperative need of diversified farming."

FARM CHEMISTRY RESEARCH GIFT

The New York Times to-day reports: "Surrogate Foley handed down a decision yesterday upholding the legality of a bequest by Mrs. Elizabeth B. Frasch, who left her residuary estate, valued at $1,000,000, for research in agricultural chemistry. The bequest was attacked by heirs at law of Mrs. Frasch on the ground that it was too indefinite to be carried out, Mrs. Frasch was the widow of Herman Frasch, head of the Union Sulphur Company, and received the bulk of her property from him. The provision of the will directed the United States Trust Company to hold the residue in trust to establish the Herman Frasch Foundation for Chemical Research. She directed the American Chemical Society to select some institution to receive the income of the fund for five years for the purpose of research in agricultural chemistry. If at the end of that time the report of the work accomplished by that institution was not satisfactory, the American Chemical Society was authorized to select another institution for a five-year trial term, and to continue this process indefinitely until the proper effects were obtained from the work. Because of these provisions the bequest was attacked."

AUTO TAX ASKED FOR ROADS

An Atlantic City dispatch to the press to-day states that strong opposition to the use of motor vehicle taxes for other than road building purposes and to compulsory liability insurance for motor vehicles not used for hire was expressed in resolutions adopted by the American Automobile Association at its annual meeting at Atlantic City, June 30. Other resolutions adopted assured support to the national conference on street and highway safety, urged complete reciprocity between all States in the matter of passenger car registration and favored adoption by the States of a uniform certificate of title law with a view to preventing theft of automobiles. The association also asked that the Federal road aid policy be continued, and recommended the taking over of Mammoth Cave in Kentucky by the Government as a national park.

FEDERAL AID FOR HIGHWAYS

A Poland Spring, Me., dispatch to the press to-day says: "A sharp division of opinion developed in the conference of Governors June 30 over what is known as the 'fifty-fifty' system of Federal aid to the various States for highway construction, whereby each State is to match the fund it receives from the Federal Government with a like amount of State funds. The plan was opposed by Governor Albert C. Ritchie of Maryland. Governors of several of the States took issue with Governor Ritchie, led by Governor Whitfield of Mississippi and supported by Governor Nellie T. Ross of Whoming, the only woman Governor attending the conference."

Section 2

Agricultural Situation

George E. Roberts, vice president of the National City Bank of New York, writing on prospects in crops and trade for the remainder of the year, in The American Review of Reviews for July, says: "The general promise of the crops is for moderate yields, a dry and cold spring having retarded growth. The effect of this condition probably will be to establish farm products upon a higher level of values, excepting corn and perhaps wheat, which already are upon a higher level than any of recent years. On general principles abundance is a blessing, but agriculture has been suffering from surpluses which have been carried over from year to year and have loaded down the markets. As the result of reduced yields this situation was corrected last year in the two cereals named, and now seems likely to be corrected as to others. Unless the unfavorable conditions continue to such an extent as to create scarcity, and injure rather than benefit the producers, the general results will not be harmful. Establishment of the normal equilibrium is the important thing. The improvement in farm purchasing power from last year's crops has been mainly in the regions where wheat and cotton were the dominant interests. The disaster to the corn crop outweighed everything else where corn is the chief factor in the farm economy. In the section from North Dakota to Texas economic conditions have been very much improved. Debts have been paid, credit has been reestablished and all business has revived. The abrupt curtailment of buying by the farming population was due not alone to the necessity which existed in many instances for the most stringent economy in order to meet obligations, but in part to the psychological effect of the fall of prices. While the debt situation has been much improved, the psychological condition has been improved even more. New courage and ambition has been given to everybody.... Interest rates upon farm mortgages are now back to practically the level of pre-war years. Lands are recovering in value, as shown by increasing sales at improving prices. It should be considered that in the fifteen years preceding 1914 agriculture enjoyed steady and expanding prosperity, as evidenced by the fact that the average value of all the farming lands in the United States doubled from 1900 to 1910, according to the census reports. That prosperity was interrupted by the war, but there is no substantial reason why it should not be regained when the derangements caused by the war have been overcome. It must be considered, also, that increasing population is a constant factor in the correction of overdevelopment in agriculture. There are about 15,000,000 more mouths to feed in the United States in 1925 than at the beginning of 1914, not to speak of the increase in other countries."

Country vs. City Diet

An editorial in The New York Times for June 29 says: "Is another cherished belief to be discarded, and are we to understand that city life is more healthful than the hymned bucolic existence down on the farm? If we are to believe the Rockefeller Foundation--an organization not much given to exaggerated statements--the answer must be 'yes.' An examination of students from town and country shows that those from the largest cities have the fewest number of physical defects. The number of cases examined--only 3,478--is perhaps too small to warrant applying the conclusion sweepingly to all parts of the country....What the reason is for this state of affairs has not yet been made clear. The Rockefeller Foundation stresses the better health protection afforded to the city dwellers. Certain it is that until recently hygiene and sanitation were woefully backward in the country... In due time we shall know more about diet. We are only beginning to

understand its possibilities. So far most of the work has been curative--that is, we have developed long lists of 'don'ts.' The next step is to obtain more certain knowledge as to the 'do's.' In an article elsewhere in to-day's Times(based upon an interview with Prof. H. C. Sherman, of Columbia University,) there is a full discussion of the mysterious 'vitamins' and a description of the role played by each one. Knowledge in this field is still far from complete, but as studies proceed it will become easier to know what foods and combinations will produce the best results in building up resistance and prolonging life. Many old theories are being shattered....."

Demonstration Farms in Britain

An editorial in The Field (London) for June 18 says: "Among the suggestions that have poured in upon the Minister of Agriculture in response to his invitations there have been several urging the need for demonstration farms. Ocular and practical demonstrations of the possibilities of dealing profitably with the different types of arable land with particular attention to the merits--agricultural and national--of arable stock farming would be of great value. It is suggested that one demonstration farm should serve a group of counties in which conditions are similar and that if it were run as a commercial enterprise such a farm would be the most effective link between the scientist in his laboratory and the working farmer. The proposal is an attractive one. A demonstration farm situated alongside land farmed by men who have to earn their living from their holdings would show the worth of different practices more clearly than any number of pamphlets and lectures can do.....One drawback to practical demonstrations in farming is that the results must be slow. Having regard to the influence of seasons and the uncertainty of our climate the period of three rotations--or say twelve years--would be the shortest time in which really reliable results could be expected. Trials which covered a short period might easily be most misleading since it would be possible by using forcing manures to grow heavy crops to the injury of the land. By extending the trial time any misuse of artificial stimulants would be reflected in the state of the land and its productiveness before the term had come to an end. The accusation of 'farming to leave' might be leveled at demonstration farms if such a precaution were not taken. A dozen years may seem a long time in the life of an individual, but it is infinitesimal in the history of agriculture and, since it is the industry rather than the individual that counts in national affairs, there should be no hesitation in planning for trials extending over a minimum period of three rotations. ...."

Farm Accounts Report

The press of June 30 states that bigger crop yields, higher returns from their livestock and better use of man and horse labor made it possible for eleven Will County farmers of Illinois to pay all their operating expenses and 5 per cent interest on their investment and still have an average of $3,154 more apiece to show for their work last year than eleven of their neighbors who followed less efficient methods, according to a summary which H. C. M. Case, in charge of the Farm Organizations and Management Department of the College of Agriculture at the University of Illinois, has just made of farm accounts which farmers in the county kept in cooperation with the agricultural college and Farm Adviser J. F. Hedgecock. In all, a total of thirty-four farmers in the country kept the accounts last year, and when the records were summarized this group of men was divided into thirds, depending upon the returns which the individual farmers realized during the year. It was found that the third of the farmers, or

eleven of them, who were most successful realized an average return of $2,379 on their labor and management, after interest and expenses were paid, while the third of the farmers or eleven of them, who were least successful lacked an average of $452 of getting enough out of their farm to pay expenses. This made a difference of $3,154 between the returns of the most and least successful of the farmers. Although the farmers who were the most successful farmed an average of 223.2 acres as compared to 168.1 acres for the farmers who were least successful, size of farm was not the chief reason for the difference in the returns which they received according to Mr. Case. Farmers who comprised the most successful third of the group obtained a third better crop yield than those in the least successful group. They got a return of 30 per cent more on each $100 which they had invested in livestock and they worked nine acres more crops with each man and three more with each horse. All of these men kept uniform accounts in the farm account book prepared by the college farm organization and management department.

German Milk Dealers Seek Milk Ban

The press of June 30 states that the Association of German Milk Dealers Unions has sent a formal petition to the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture urging that import restrictions be imposed upon condensed and canned milk products, basing their request upon an increase in importation into Germany of these products. Imports in 1924 are declared to be 7 1/2 times as large as they were in 1913, says a report to the Commerce Department. Inasmuch, however, as the demand for canned milk, especially of American origin, has shown a marked increase since the war, particularly in large cities, it is expected that German importers of canned milk and many wholesale food dealers will strenuously oppose this petition.

Northwest Crop Conditions and Trade

A Minneapolis dispatch to the press of June 30 says: "Though the critical period for growing crops is yet to come, farmers and business men throughout the Northwest are jubilant over conditions thus far. Prospects are for a crop nearly, if not fully, as large as last year's big yield. With prices well above a year ago and giving signs of stability, there is reason to believe that farmers will again be 'in funds' this fall and winter to an extent that will mean liberal buying on their part."

Pest Research in Australia

An editorial in The Pastoral Review (Melbourne) for May 16 says: "The Commonwealth Institute of Science and Industry is to be reorganized, and it is to be hoped that it will devote special attention to the work of combating the pests that beset the pastoral industry. We have long advocated the necessity for more co-ordinated practical and scientific research into these problems, and the work is one in which the institute should take an important part. Too much has the task of coping with pests that flourish through the length and breadth of the Continent been left to individual effort, and while individuals may have succeeded in protecting themselves in a greater or lesser degree from the rabbit, the wild dog, the blowfly, &c., there can hardly be said to be any diminution of these pests from a national standpoint. Until they are wiped out or diminished to their minimum, there can be no cessation of the constant heavy expenditure and loss that goes on to-day, or any relief from their constant menace. This end, we believe, can only be achieved by co-ordinated combative measures and steady research work, of which the Institute of Science and Industry could do its share....."

Rubber Factories in Australia

According to press statements, two new industries are to be established in Australia. The North British Rubber Company of Edinburgh and the Dunlop Rubber Company of Australia have reached an agreement to form an Australian company to manufacture rubber footwear. It is stated that the factory will be erected at Abbotsford, Melbourne. The capital will be $2,500,000. The first unit will employ five hundred hands. The factory is expected to be in full running order early in 1926. (N.Y.Office Australian Commissioner.)

Section 3

Department of Agriculture

An editorial in Commercial West for June 27 says: "In a recent article Roger W. Babson pointed out an opportunity which the manufacturers of food products should not overlook. He believes that they should advertise their products more extensively so as to relieve the women of the home of much of the drudgery in connection with their kitchen work, the trend being for people to use more and more of the prepared foods and to depend to a greater extent upon manufacturers and canners for food products. Mr.Babson also called attention to the great moral responsibility of the managers of these concerns, in seeing to it that harmful adulterants and preservatives are avoided and that their products are in every way wholesome food....The Bureau of Home Economics of the United States Department of Agriculture, and these similar departments of the various States, have been doing good work along this line, but no doubt there is a vast field for further improvement in many of the foods offered to the public. It is worthy of notice that explorers of polar regions during recent years have used dried fruits and vegetables in making up their cargo of food supplies, as the dehydrating process retains most of the chemical elements which are sometimes lost in the methods of cooking and canning food products. It is stated that the general health of these explorers through the Arctic regions has been much improved under their trying living conditions by using natural foods more extensively than was the practice years ago. The remarkable change which has been going on during the past generation or more in buying prepared foods and depending so largely upon manufacturers or public kitchens to provide food, emphasizes the great importance of seeing to it that we are furnished foods of the highest value and as nearly pure as science can make them. The public will commend all efforts, either through Federal or other agencies, to insure that the very best quality of food is offered at stores, restaurants and hotels."

Section 4
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products June 30: Florida and Georgia Tom Watson watermelons, averaging 22-30 pounds each, ranged $275 to $475 bulk per car in terminal markets, low as $225 in Chicago. Tennessee wrapped tomatoes in four basket crates sold at $1.50 to $1.90 in leading markets. Virginia Irish Cobbler potatoes $4.50 to $5.25 per barrel in eastern cities; $4.25 to $4.50 f.o.b. California Salmon Tint cantaloupes ranged $3.75 to $4.50 per standard 45 in consuming centers; $1.25 to $1.40 f.o.b. El Centro. Georgia Hiley peaches sold at $2 to $3.25 per six basket carrier and bushel basket in leading markets; few $1.75 to $2 f.o.b. Macon. Best Georgia Belles $3 to $3.50 in New York City.

Chicago hog prices closed at $13.85 for the top; bulk of sales $12.50 to $13.75; medium and good beef steers $10.75 to $12.25; butcher cows and heifers $4 to $12; feeder steers $5.40 to $8.25; light and mediu weight veal calves $9 to $11.25; fat lambs $14.50 to $16.85; yearlings $10.25 to $14.50; fat ewes $4.25 to $8.

Chicago grain prices quoted June 30, 1925: No.1 dark northern Minneapolis $1.49 1/2 to $1.67 1/2. No.2 red winter St. Louis $1.85; Kansas City $1.55 to $1.56. No.1 hard winter St. Louis $1.51; No.2 hard winter (new) Kansas City $1.45 to $1.56. No.2 mixed corn Kansas City 97 to 98¢; No. 3 mixed corn Chicago $1 to $1.00 1/2; Minneapolis 95 to 97¢. No.2 yellow corn Chicago $1.02 to $1.03 1/2; St. Louis $1.04 1/2 to $1.06; Kansas City $1.02. No.3 yellow corn Minneapolis $1.00 to $1.01. No.2 white corn Chicago $1.02 to $1.02 1/2; St. Louis $1.02 to $1.02 1/2; Kansas City 98¢. No.3 white oats Chicago 42 1/4 to 44¢; Minneapolis 41 1/4¢ to 41 1/2¢; St. Louis 45 1/2¢; Kansas City 45 to 46¢.

Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets down 2 points, closing at 24.69¢ per lb. New York July future contracts unchanged, closing at 24.04¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

Industrials and Railroads

Average closing price	June 30,	June 29,	June 30, 1924.
20 Industrials	131.01	129.23	96.36
20 R.R.stocks	98.41	97.80	85.80

(Wall St. Jour., July 1.)

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol.XVIII, No. 2 Section 1 July 2, 1925.

FEDERAL FINANCES Secretary Mellon made public last night the final figures dealing with the public finances at the end of the fiscal year on June 30. The Treasury surplus reached $250,505,238.33, it being held down somewhat by a jump in ordinary expenditures of running the Government during the last two days. The surplus, however, was far beyond the expectations of officials a few weeks ago, and at the beginning of the fiscal year it was estimated that there would be a surplus of but $67,000,000. The public debt was reduced $734,619,101.59, and amounted to $20,516,193,887.90 at the end of the fiscal year. All of the surplus, as well as the sum of $466,538,113.83 provided for specifically by law for debt reduction were used for that purpose. Secretary Mellon called attention to the fact that as the surplus for the fiscal year had already been used it would not be available for tax reduction. Future tax reductions must be assessed against the prospective surplus for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1926. President Coolidge estimated recently that this would be $290,000,000, but it is pretty generally agreed that present tax rates actually would pay all Government expenses during the current year and pile up a surplus of $400,000,000 or better. (Press, July 2.)

NEW YORK MILK TESTS The New York Times to-day says: "Three years of research, during which scientists worked daily with the greatest collection of deadly disease germs in existence, and one scientist came down with typhoid fever, have resulted in proving that the regulations adopted by New York City for the pasteurization of milk are more than adequate, according to an announcement of the results of the research made yesterday at the Museum of Hygiene of New York University and Bellevue Hospital. The victim of the research was William H. Marcussen of the Borden Farm Products Company, who volunteered for the dangerous work of taking and distributing samples of infected milk. He and his fellow-workers went through the three years of experiment without mishap, but two weeks after the work was completed Mr. Marcussen was taken down with typhoid fever. He recovered after two months of illness.....The disease germs used were those of tuberculosis, typhoid, paratyphoid, diphtheria, septic sore throat and others. Typhoid germs were grown in milk until it contained 2,000,000 bacilli per drop. The tubercule bacilli were cultivated until they existed in sample at the ratio of 30,000,000 germs to the teaspoon. These and other high concentrations of germs were then pasteurized in the manner laid down by the New York Health Department. Sterilization was found to be complete.....The investigation was started three years ago when charges were made that the pasteurization rules of the Health Department were insufficient....."

HAWAIIAN SUGAR A Honolulu dispatch to the press to-day states that the Hawaiian sugar crop for 1925 will reach a total of 753,700 tons, 60,000 tons more than the previous estimate, and exceeding any Hawaiian crop ever produced by 45,000 tons, the Hawaiian sugar factors announced.

Section 2

Agricultural Conditions

An editorial in The American Reviews of Reviews for July says: "The crisis that has shaken American agriculture to its foundations has passed through its acute phases. Violent earthquake shocks are no longer features of the news from the farming districts. Those, however, who imagine that the devastated regions have been fully restored to normal prosperity may know a good deal about France and Belgium, but they know very little about the United States. Up to a certain point, where whole States or regions are visited by war, earthquake, or financial shock caused by things beyond the control of the victims, recovery demands public and official assistance. Beyond that point, private agencies must resume their control of the situation and expect no favors. Any country lacks intelligent statesmanship that pursues policies which tend to build up flourishing cities and to produce a discouraged and impoverished agriculture. This, however, is not a matter related to any immediate crisis, but rests rather upon permanent considerations. As regards the present year's business, the farmers are aware that they must look out for themselves. So far as the production of crops is concerned, our farmers can not be taught very much. They now understand the principles of soil maintenance, the use of good seeds, the feeding and improvement of livestock, and the other factors that enter into the kind of farming that belongs to their particular districts. They are making long strides toward the thing that is most necessary for their economic salvation, namely, the standardization of their cash crops and the use of the cooperative method to protect the individual farmer against the vicissitudes of fluctuating markets. This movement has much farther to go, but it is already recognized not only as indispensable, but as really offering some hope for an otherwise desperate situation. Next month we shall have some important contributions to make in this periodical to the discussion of the achievements, as well as the methods and principles, of agricultural cooperation."

Business and Farming Convention

Methods by which the farmer and the business man of the Northwest can cooperate for their mutual advantage in the solution of common problems relating to agriculture will be discussed at a meeting of representatives of chambers and associations of commerce to be held at Portland, Ore., July 17 and 18, under the auspices of the agricultural bureau of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States. The meeting will be the second of its kind to be held for the purpose of considering regional agricultural problems from the common viewpoint of business and the farm. The first, held at Kansas City last April, included eight States of the middle western and southwestern sections of the country. The Portland conference will be composed of representatives of commercial organizations of the States of Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Washington, many of whom will be farmers. The first day of the conference will be devoted to the discussion of practical methods by which chambers of commerce are approaching the agricultural problems of their trade areas, - the organization and composition of agricultural bureaus or committees and their relationship to established public and private institutions, such as the State agricultural college and farmers' organizations. From the local viewpoint the conference will also approach larger questions, such as agricultural credit, the marketing of farm products, agricultural legislation, farm cost accounting and boys' and girls' club work. On the second day attention will be given to technical methods of outlining agricultural problems, - regional surveys as a working basis for agricultural activities of chambers of commerce, and the translation of the results of

the surveys into constructive action. Other subjects to be considered are crop and livestock improvement, the dangers in hastily conceived diversification campaigns, farm labor supply, fairs and exhibits. (Ch. of Com. of U.S. statement, July 2.)

Commercialized Farming

An editorial in The New York Times for July 1 says: "Apples, pears, peaches, oranges, potatoes and other vegetables raised by 37,000 farmers in all parts of the United States were distributed to 1,196 cities in forty-seven States by one organization in 1924--the Federated Fruit and Vegetable Growers, a national farmers' 'cooperative sales service,' established less than three years ago. According to the report of the General Manager, Arthur R. Rule, the Federated sold '40 per cent of the entire potato crop of Maine,' 'will have 80 per cent of next year's Utah peach crop,' and is now the largest factor in Florida vegetables'; while 'the Illinois Fruit Growers' Exchange received through the Federated approximately 50 cents more per crate for strawberries during the season than the growers outside the Exchange'; the Federated 'raised the general level of peach prices for all New Jersey growers,' and brought the Mutual Orange Distributers of California a tonnage gain of 16.8 per cent more than in 1923.' Both the achievement and the language that records it are typical of the new agriculture, with its super-salesmen, its national advertising campaigns, its cultivation of consumer demand and its chart-making. In agriculture national distribution is now being achieved without corporate production. The use of machinery has been the determining cause of this divergent development, The corporation is the child of the factory and the machine; but with few exceptions factory and machine methods have yet to be applied to the farm. If they ever are, the corporation is likely to displace the cooperative. At present the functions of the cooperative and the corporation in the process of distribution are essentially the same. The farmers' national cooperative can eliminate much of the waste and uncertainties of individual competitive marketing. With agents in every distributing centre it tempers the shipments of its members to the winds of consumer demand; it mobilizes credit; it standardizes products; it bargains more effectively both with retailers and railroads; Sun-kist oranges and Sun-maid raisins are a tribute to its advertising possibilities. But it does not necessarily directly benefit the consumer. It may be little more than the substitution of the farmer himself for one of the middlemen in the chain of distribution. The savings which its economies effect are more likely to be passed on to the farmer in increased revenues than to the public in decreased living costs; the temptation grows apace to overstock the market for temporary sales gains; and price-fixing and monopoly are increasingly alluring."

Cooperative Marketing

An editorial in The Progressive Farmer for July 4 says: "Cooperative marketing is gaining by leaps and bounds all over the United States, and in the South in particular. In 1915, there were only 651,000 members of cooperative marketing associations in the whole country. The Southern States now have 913,000, or about one-third more than the whole country had in 1915. There were only 104,000 members in the South in 1915, thus showing that in the past 10 years the increase has been nearly 900 per cent. For the country as a whole, we now have approximately 2,500,000 farmers who are members of these marketing organizations. This is compared to 651,000 ten years ago. These figures give some idea of the tremendous strides that are being made by these organizations. Despite the mistakes that are made here and yonder and failures that may come about

from time to time, cooperative marketing is on the road to success. The principle is eternally right and will prevail in the end. There is no question about this. It is, therefore, clearly the duty, both from the standpoint of one's selfish interests and for the best development of all concerned, that every farmer join one or more cooperative marketing association in his section. It will pay, and it is right."

Cotton Spinners Curtail — A Manchester, Eng., dispatch to the press of July 1 states that cotton spinners of that district who use American yarns have voted by an overwhelming majority to adopt a policy of curtailed production by reducing the working schedules of their mills by eight and three-quarters hours per week. The Federation of Cotton Spinners' Association had requested the Manchester spinners using American yarns to adopt this policy.

Italian Cereal Exemption — A dispatch from Rome to the press of July 1 states that Cesare Nava, Minister of National Economy, announces the extension until December 31 of the suspension of customs duties on wheat and other cereals. Permission to export cereals will be extended for the same period. Nevertheless, the Government intends to continue surveillance of cereal trading and to promulgate, whenever conditions are considered opportune, regulations intended to promote domestic production of cereals.

Liberian Rubber — American interests headed by Harvey S. Firestone of Akron, Ohio, have practically concluded negotiations for a concession in Liberia to be utilized in the growing of plantation rubber on a large scale, according to the press of June 27.

Potash Sales Agreement — The Berlin correspondent of The Economist reports that the recently concluded two years' agreement with the French potash interests has increased Germany's share in the total sales to America from 62 per cent as under last year's agreement, to 70 per cent. The Alsace potash industry promises to take no measures for increase of output. Competition outside the terms of the agreement is forbidden. Whereas the old agreement covered sales only to the United States and Sweden, the new agreement covers all export sales, but does not concern sales at home. Germany is to supply all East European countries, including Russia, and France to supply all Latin countries. (Press, June 29.)

Protection and Preference — An editorial in The Wall Street Journal for July 1 says: "Any country committed to a policy of protection, if that policy needs apology, can close discussion by pointing out that protection is a round game for which all comers are eligible. The alternative is tariff for revenue only, and such a policy may be in a measure protedtive, while a protective tariff may raise a large revenue, as in the United States, although that is admittedly not its primary object. In the McKenna duties Great Britain has a substantial protection for a small number of industries, of which the manufacture of motor cars is the one most concerning ourselves, and also taxes such things as tea, tobacco, raisins, currants, plums, figs and last, but not least, wine, spirits and beer. These are taxes for revenue, but if Great Britain uses them, in an essentially protective sense, to give a preference to other parts of the Empire in which such commodities can be produced, the fruit growers of California can hardly complain. Britain is a large consumer of tea, and the product of India and Ceylon suits the English palate 90 per cent better than the Chinese varieties. What would really be effected or encouraged would be the production of dried fruits, wine and tobacco in South Africa, Australia and perhaps

New Zealand. Canada does not stand to benefit by any of the items named, but the West Indies would be helped, especially in the case of tobacco. In the matter of protection modernized Turkey is up to the foremost barrier of civilization and has, as the common people put it, no kick coming....."

Textile Fiber Nomenclature — Vegetable fibers other than cotton are discussed in a tariff information survey of the United States Tariff Commission made available for distribution July 1. In addition to cotton, the report states there are some 1,500 plants from which fibrous substances may be derived, but that from a commercial standpoint only 15 are regarded as of sufficient importance to demand classification. It is declared that there is no generally recognized standard of nomenclature applying to vegetable fibers. As an example of the prevailing confusion in this respect the term "hemp" is applied to some thirty different fibers while strictly speaking the term denominates some variety of cannabis sativa, and it is so used in Kentucky, Wisconsin and Italy. On the other hand, "hemp" in New Zealand means "New Zealand flax," in Mauritius, "aloe fiber," and in the Philippines to abaca. This confusion respecting fibers which should be included under a given name, the report states, would be largely, if not entirely overcome by the establishment and general application of a standardized list, showing the fibers properly classified under each name. Such a list, in tentative form, has been prepared by the commission. (Press, July 1.)

Tobacco Warehouse Association in Georgia — A Tifton, Ga., dispatch to the press of June 29 states that at a meeting there June 26, attended by representatives of twenty-one of the twenty-two tobacco markets in Georgia, the Georgia Tobacco Warehouse Association was formed. July 21 was agreed upon as the date for the opening of the Georgia tobacco markets. The purpose of the organization was set forth as "to work for the interest of the tobacco farmer in Georgia, to arrange for the opening and closing dates of the tobacco markets of the State, and to attend to other matters of interest to the industry."

Wool Consumption Drop — A 4,000,000-pound drop in domestic wool consumption in May, as compared with April,1925, is indicated in statistics on the use of wool by 553 manufacturers in the United States, made public June 30, by the Bureau of the Census. Twenty manufacturers failed to report. The total May consumption was reported as 32,146,479 pounds, as compared with 36,774,153 pounds in April. The consumption included 24,726,194 pounds in the grease, 5,439,746 pounds of scoured wool and 1,980,539 pounds of pulled wool. Reduced to a grease equivalent, these quantities would amount to 38,246,404 pounds. The grease equivalent for April was 43,286,554 pounds.

Section 3
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products July 1: Tennessee wrapped fours mostly $1.50 to $1.75 in consuming centers. Mississippi stock $1.25 to $1.65. South Carolina sixes $3.50 to $4 in New York City. Honey Dew cantaloupes ranged distinctly lower at $1.75 to $2.25 per crate. Virginia Irish Cobbler potatoes advanced 25¢ to 75¢ per barrel in eastern markets to $4.50 to $5.25 but sold 10¢ lower at East Shore points at $4.15 to $4.40 f.o.b. Georgia Hiley peaches sold 25¢ to $1.25 lower, closing at $1.75 to $2.75 per six basket carrier and bushel basket, top of $3.75 for large sizes in New York and Philadelphia. A few f.o.b. sales of Belles brought $2 to $2.23 at Macon, Ga. and in eastern markets this variety was jobbing at $2.75 to $4. A decline of $75 to $225 marked f.o.b. trading in Georgia watermelons, Tom Watson of 22-30 pounds average selling at $150 to $225 bulk per car at Valdosta.

Chicago hog prices closed at $14 for the top and $12.25 to $13.85 for the bulk. Medium and good beef steers $10.75 to $13.25; butcher cows and heifers $4 to $12; feeder steers $6 to $8.25; light and medium weight veal calves $9 to $11.75; fat lambs $14.25 to $16.50; yearlings $10 to $14; fat ewes $4.50 to $8.25.

Closing prices on 92 score butter: New York 41¢; Chicago 40¢; Philadelphia 41 1/2¢; Boston 41 1/2¢.

Grain prices quoted July 1: No.1 dark northern Minneapolis $1.47 to $1.64. No.2 red winter Kansas City $1.48. No.2 hard winter Chicago $1.49 to $1.52; Kansas City $1.48 to $1.54; No.1 hard winter St.Louis $1.51. No.2 mixed corn Chicago $1.02; Kansas City 99 1/2 to $1.00; No.3 mixed corn Minneapolis 96 to 98¢. No.2 yellow corn Chicago $1.03 to $1.04; St. Louis $1.06 1/2 to $1.07; Kansas City $1.05. No.3 yellow corn Minneapolis $1.01 to $1.02. No.2 white corn Chicago $1.03; St.Louis $1.04 1/2; Kansas City $1.01. No.3 white corn Chicago 44 1/2 to 46 1/2¢; St. Louis 46 to 46 1/2¢; Kansas City 46¢; Minneapolis 40 5/8 to 40 7/8¢.

Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets declined 8 points, closing at 24.61¢ per lb. New York July future contracts declined 11 points, closing at 23.93¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

Industrials and Railroads	Average closing price	July 1,	June 30,	July 1, 1924
	20 Industrials	131.76	131.01	96.45
	20 R.R. stocks	98.85	98.41	85.83

(Wall St. Jour., July 2.)

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol.XVIII, No. 3 Section 1 July 3, 1925

BINDER TWINE CASE

According to the press of July 3, the Government will appeal to the Supreme Court the decision of Federal Judge Hand, of New York, dismissing the Government's anti-trust suit against the Sisal Sales Corporation. The suit, based on an alleged monopoly in the binder-twine industry, and involving several New York banks and individuals, was instituted last July.

EUROPEAN MEAT BUYING

A Chicago dispatch to the press of July 3 says: "The meat packing industry is back on a thoroughly sound and prosperous basis, according to F. Edson White, president of Armour & Co., largest of the packing concerns, who returned July 2 from a month's study of foreign conditions. 'I am more optimistic with respect to business conditions than at any time since the war,' he said. 'Europe undoubtedly is coming back. England particularly has made remarkable strides. Other European countries are on a better basis than might be supposed. They are again working in earnest and have money for buying essentials. As meat is among the most essential of products, our South American plants, which furnish Europe with beef, are doing a large business and there also is a gradual improvement in the export business from this country.'"

NORTHWEST RAILROADS AND BUS LINES

A St. Paul dispatch to the press of July 3 says: "Railways of the Northwest are making valiant efforts to 'come back,' but that they are facing a crisis of some magnitude and are in urgent need of such assistance as the Interstate Commerce Commission can give them are demonstrated only too clearly by recent events. Among all the Class I railways of the country, those of the interior Northwest returned the lowest dividends in the first four months of 1925, or, to be exact, 1.92 per cent on their outstanding stock. It is not a question of low returns from freight alone, although the competition of our transcontinental lines with the Panama Canal is really working havoc with their revenue, and no doubt had something to do with the passing of the St.Paul road into the receiver's hands. The passenger situation is giving the Northwest lines a good deal of concern also, both local and through. The action of the Great Northern Railway in buying up some bus lines and planning a great system of other bus services over the State and more or less paralleling their own rails, is a sure proof of the distress that the incredible growth in that class of passenger transportation is causing among the steam rail companies....."

CUBAN SUGAR

A Havana dispatch to the press of July 3 announces that Cuba's sugar crop broke all records this year, with a total output of 5,100,000 tons. The Department of Agriculture estimates that the planters received $123,379,000.

Section 2

Agriculture and Business

In an editorial on business conditions, The Country Gentleman for July 4 says:"....Even the farm-implement industry, which was submerged for five long years by the agricultural depression, has come back to life. Every factory is busy and the tractor shops are working overtime. This more clearly than anything else reveals the feeling of optimism for the future on the farms. Out on the farms the weather at this particular season of the year is the big deciding factor in prosperity. During the spring it was tricky, with late frosts in May and protracted droughts in the Southwest and in the Corn Belt. Late frosts destroyed the fruit crop throughout the upper Mississippi Valley and slight damage occurred in other places, but the big commercial fruit-growing sections of the country escaped. The loss will cause individual distress, but nationally it is not so serious as first reports indicated. Owing to unreasonable weather early in the season it appears to be safe to predict that the total farm-crop tonnage this year will be somewhat less than during recent bumper-crop years. If this guess proves right agriculture will not be burdened with a surplus this year and prices will be high. Every market indicator at this time points to higher prices for this year's crops than in any year since 1919. Cotton is the only possible exception.....There seems no possibility at this time of a low price for wheat, corn or any of the cereals. All fruits, with the exception of citrus fruits whose production has been expanded beyond reason, together with all animal products, including butter, poultry and eggs, are in a strong market position. All in all it seems safe to predict prices for farm crops this year on a parity with manufactured goods and possibly a little above. This does not mean that farmers in all parts of the country are certain to have a prosperous year; that is something to be hoped for but seldom realized, because the country is so big, its climate so diversified and its agricultural interests so diverse. Some parts of the country will fare better than others, but, on the whole, prospects for a generally favorable year for farmers are excellent....."

Federal Aid for Highways

An editorial in The Wall Street Journal for July 2 says: "Governor Ritchie of Maryland was unquestionably right when he told the conference of governors that the 'fifty-fifty' plan of Federal aid to State road building has become an absurdity and worse, so far as its financial aspect is concerned. He was not the first to point out that the system taxes the wealthier and more populous States for highways in the remoter parts of the Union and costs those States far more than they get out of it. His amazement that their representatives in Congress continue to support the scheme, however, is not hard to explain, at least after a fashion. Perhaps the main reason why the Federal road pool gets by with so little opposition, from the States which could save money by its abolition, is that it constitutes a relatively small part of all Federal taxation. Accepting Governor Ritchie's figures, the Federal road appropriation of $76,000,000 in round numbers represents less than 5 per cent of the total income tax alone and a still smaller proportion of the total Federal taxes. It is true that if New York lost its share of Federal road aid, about $4,000,000, it would still be some $19,000,000 ahead, assuming that total cost of the Federal aid scheme were wholly and immediately written off the income tax schedules. But the net saving would be only about 4 per cent on the State's Federal income taxes and there is no certainty that such saving would be realized in full. As the Maryland Executive says, 18 States contribute, on

the basis of their proportion of Federal income tax payments, more than $61,000,000 to the Federal road pool and get from it only $32,500,000. But the burden imposed upon them by the road scheme is a smaller proportion of their Federal tax burden than in the case of New York alone. These 18 States pay $1,407,000,000 in Federal income taxes, or 86 per cent of the total. Their contribution to the road pool is 4.3 per cent of their Federal income tax bill, but their net contribution to the highways of other States, roughly $29,000,000, is only 2 per cent of their Federal income taxes. They have, of course, no assurance that if they combined to defeat the Federal appropriation no other burden would be substituted. Road building with Federal aid is only a part of the general tendency to turn to Washington for things which should be done by the States or not at all. This is not to say that highway improvement on a large scale is not an economic necessity, though it has become abundantly evident that it has played its part in a dangerous inflation of State and local taxation. The temptation to get funds by matching dollars with the Federal Government has in all probability led more than one State to spend too much and too rapidly on road building. One valid defense of a system now in danger of abuse can not be overlooked. Federal aid has been coupled with competent Federal supervision of construction standards and business administration and is beginning to introduce logical road planning toward meeting real necessities. In a majority of the States further supervision of this character is doubtless a public necessity. The system should not be ruthlessly thrown overboard, but means should be devised by which its injustice to a minority of the States can be redressed."

Grain Corporation Accounting Asked

A Chicago dispatch to the press of July 2 says: "A suit for an accounting of the United States Grain Corporation was filed July 1 by the Mercantile Trading Company, formerly the J. Rosenbaum Grain Company. The complainant's bill alleges that the grain corporation, formed to handle the entire wheat output of the Nation during the World War, collected refunds on freight from carriers which should have been paid to the Mercantile Trading Company.'

Milk as Food

Milk is the best of foods, according to a telegram from Professor E. V. McCollum of Johns Hopkins University, made public July [illegible], by the Producers and Consumers' Organizing Committee, New York. Professor McCollum, who wired from Logan, Utah, is one of the leaders of vitamine research. "The people who have achieved," Professor McCollum wired, "the people who have become large, strong and vigorous, who have reduced their infant mortality, who are progressing in science and every activity of the human intellect, are the people who have used liberal amounts of milk and its by-products. Milk is the most satisfactory article of food which is suitable for consumption by man, the fats of the milk constituting the most important source in the American and European diet of the dietary essential fat-soluble A." (Press, July 2.)

Section 3

Department of Agriculture

An editorial in The Journal of Commerce for July 2 says: "What Senator Heflin has recently had to say with respect to the Government cotton crop reporting system and proposed changes therein is certainly in and of itself not worthy of much attention. The outgivings of Senator Heflin call to mind another aspect of this crop reporting situation, however, which is of vital concern to all who would like to see the Department of Agriculture introduce far-reaching improvements in its

services. That is the fact that major changes in crop reporting practices, alterations of a nature to render thoroughly adequate and really useful reports possible, must in the last analysis be sought not in the Department of Agriculture itself but in Congress. No one whose opinion is worth very much is likely to maintain that officials and employees of the Department of Agriculture have always made the best of their opportunities in this respect. It is more or less obvious that despite the restrictions imposed upon them and notwithstanding the handicaps Congress has always placed upon their work, they could at the present time afford the community much more useful information about conditions in agricultural districts than they are giving it. Private estimators with but a small fraction of the funds regularly expended by the Department of Agriculture habitually come as close and indeed more often than not a good deal closer to the truth in the matter of reporting crop conditions than does the Government. On the other hand if Congress knew a good crop reporting service when it saw it, and really was determined that the Nation at large should have the benefit of such a convenience, it would be forthcoming without either undue delay or burdensome expense. Of that there need not be the slightest doubt. The personnel in these circumstances would very soon revise their habits of thought and action or give place to others with more adequate knowledge and ability. If it be asserted that the work of the department is technically under the direction of the President and not of Congress, the obvious reply is that in such matters Congress invariably has its way either through the cooperation with the Chief Executive or without it, despite all the weight of constitutional checks and balances. Not only could Congress force good reports, but conversely it is wholly out of the question to expect compilation of really pertinent facts against the will of Congress and very difficult to do so as long as Congress is essentially indifferent concerning the matter. To locate ultimate responsibility is, however, not of itself to solve the problem. In point of fact, it is probably a much more difficult task to get adequate action from Congress than it would if proper results could be obtained by appealing directly to the Department of Agriculture. Knowledge of the true inwardness of the problem ought, however, in this case to be the beginning of wisdom in laying plans for a satisfactory solution. What we need to do obviously is find some means of leading our legislators to see what constitutes adequate crop reports and to discover a way to induce them to act appropriately. In short, our crop reporting problem is to be attacked just as a good many of our other current problems are to be solved if they are to find solution: i.e., by the slow process of reforming Congress. How can a beginning be made in this matter, and how can we gain our own consent to make a start?"

A report of Senator Heflin's statement, in the press of July 1, says: "A protest against any action on the part of the United States Crop Reporting Board toward abandoning its present type of report by substituting 'probable yield' for the cotton condition figure is voiced in a statement issued June 30 by Senator Heflin of Alabama. The change was suggested by Austin H. Garside, Boston banker.....'The present plan of requiring reports from time to time on the condition of the growing crop of cotton is the better plan, although, as recently conducted, it has been widely criticized because, in many States, conditions did not justify the favorable reports published by the Government', declared Senator Heflin. 'But, in spite of the fact that those reports when made frequently injuriously affect the cotton producer, that system is infinitely better than the suggested change, which involves speculation and guesswork on a tremendous scale,' he said."

Section 4

MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products July 2: California cantaloupe prices declining. Imperial Valley Salmon Tints ranged from $3.25 to $4.50 per standard crate of 45 melons in consuming centers. Tennessee wrapped tomatoes sold 15¢ to 50¢ lower at $1.50 to $1.75 per four-basket crate in leading markets. Virginia Irish Cobbler potatoes closed at a range of $4.50 to $5.25 per barrel in eastern markets; $4.15 to $4.40 f.o.b. East Shore Points. Georgia Hiley peaches, though firm in one or two markets sold mostly 25¢ to $1 lower in distributing centers at $2 to $2.75 per six-basket carrier and bushel basket, large sizes bringing as high as $3.50. At Valdosta, Ga. f.o.b. sales of Tom Watson watermelons averaging 22-28 pounds were $60 to $100 lower at $150 to $250 bulk per car.

Chicago hog prices closed at $14.15 for the top and $12.40 to $14.10 for the bulk. Medium and good beef steers $8.50 to $12.75; butcher cows and heifers $4 to $12.25; feeder steers $6 to $8.25; light and medium weight veal calves $9 to $11.75; fat lambs $14.25 to $16.50; yearlings $10 to $14, and fat ewes $4.50 to $8.25.

Closing prices on 92 score butter: New York 41¢; Chicago 41¢; Philadelphia 42¢; Boston 42¢.

Grain prices quoted July 2: No.1 dark northern Minneapolis $1.47 1/2 to $1.64 1/2. No.2 red winter St. Louis (new) $1.63 to $1.68; Kansas City $1.49. No.1 hard winter St. Louis $1.50; No.2 hard winter (new) Kansas City $1.46 to $1.49. No.2 mixed corn Chicago $1.00 to $1.02 1/2; Kansas City 98 1/2 to 99 1/2¢; No.3 mixed corn Minneapolis 94 1/2 to 96 1/2¢; No.2 yellow corn Chicago $1.01 1/2 to $1.04; St.Louis $1.08 1/2; Kansas City $1.05. No.3 yellow corn Minneapolis 99 1/2 to $1.00 1/2. No.2 white corn Chicago $1.01 1/2 to $1.03; Kansas City 98 1/2 to $1.00. No.3 white oats Chicago 44 to 45¢; Minneapolis 40 3/4 to 41 1/4¢; St. Louis 46 1/4 to 47¢; No.2 white oats Kansas City 47¢.

Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets down 36 points during the week, closing at 23.73¢ per lb. New York July future contracts declined 19 points, closing at 23.06¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

Industrials and Railroads

Average closing price	July 2,	July 1,	July 2, 1924
20 Industrials	131.53	131.76	96.38
20 R.R. stocks	99.08	98.85	85.78

(Wall St. Jour., July 3.)

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol.XVIII, No. 4 Section 1 July 6, 1925

GEORGIA COTTON CROP

An Atlanta, Ga., dispatch to the press of July 6 says: "That Georgia must save her cotton crop from the boll weevil this year to maintain herself on a firm economic basis was the statement made here Saturday by John R. Slater, president of the Georgia Association. 'Boll weevils,' declared Mr. Slater, 'are more numerous this year than in several seasons past, and unless immediate and concerted action is taken, cotton planters will suffer a very heavy loss.'"

COTTON RESTRICTION IN BRITAIN

A London dispatch to the press of July 6 says: "The ballot taken for the continuation of short-time operations in the cotton industry has resulted in a large majority in favor of restriction. Our big industrial leaders continue to emphasize the great need for lower taxation and longer working hours, without increased wages or a cut in railway rates. They agree that the only cure for unemployment is the reduction of working costs to a figure at which we can compete in the world's markets, and forecast ruin to many of our principal industries unless costs are brought down substantially and quickly."

RUSSIAN CROPS

A Moscow dispatch to the press of July 6 says: "Such an abundant harvest is expected by the (Soviet) authorities as to necessitate the mobilization of large amounts of state funds for gathering it. Anticipating a shortage in capital, a conference of Soviet bank directors has been held, at which it was decided to attract private capital for realizing the grain harvest. Recommendations were sent to the government that it create normal conditions for private contractors."

UNEMPLOYMENT IN BRITAIN

A London dispatch to the press of July 6 says: "No improvement can be reported in the employment situation. The latest official figures show that on June 22 the number of unemployed was 1,299,700, which was 19,330 more than at the end of the preceding week and 295,918 more than a year ago."

REFORESTATION IN WASHINGTON

A Seattle dispatch to the press of July 6 says: "Following out suggestions by President Coolidge for reforestation of logged-off timber areas, a new taxation measure has been formulated by the Washington Forestry Conference during its session here. The new bill seeks to encourage private owners of logged-off lands to reforest their holdings by relieving them of the major portion of taxation during the growing period. The bill provides that such owners may list such lands with State authorities as 'immature forests' and upon complying with State regulations the land will only be taxed during the growing period. A constitutional amendment may be required to make the new measure valid."

Section 2

Banker Farming in Georgia

J. H. Reed, writing from Atlanta to Commerce and Finance for July 1, says: "The results of some of the 'doctoring' of sick business which banks undertook in 1921 and thereafter are still coming to light. Many of these sick enterprises were so huge in size that they involved nearly the whole country's prosperity. Dramatic, almost over-night, action by bankers and lawyers was necessary to conserve their diminished resources and to prevent them from going the way of the bankrupt, or to nurse them in receivership back to vigor and strength. But it may be questioned whether in the aggregate these few big cases were as vitally important as the innumerable individual cases that also had to be met -- the cases, particularly, of the small farmers who lost their savings and their farms as the outcome of circumstances whose true inwardness few of them could even understand. And it is equally questionable whether the big New York banker refinancing a huge corporation had to meet a problem more difficult in kind than, say, the head of a great mortgage and loan organization who found himself compelled to foreclose on three-fourths of the farms on which he had loaned money. How should he handle the situation? Should he give the farmers more time? Should he foreclose and simply let the farms stand idle? What should he do? Eugene R. Black, president of the Atlanta Trust Co., of Atlanta, Ga., was one of those faced with this question. As agent for the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. his company had loaned money on thousands of Georgia farms. The boll weevil had rendered these farms unprofitable. Therefore many owners deliberately went away and left them, and many others were unable to pay either the interest or the principal on their mortgages.....The thing to do was to work those farms along diversified lines, growing other crops and raising livestock, and then sell the abandoned and foreclosed farms, not to native Georgians, but to farmers in the crowded areas of the North and East who would introduce more modern methods and more diversified crops and help to pull Georgia out of the rut into which she had fallen.. Unusual terms were offered to tenants and to purchasers, for the object of the company was to put those idle farms back on a producing basis. Today, as a result of this policy, the Atlanta Trust Co. is supervising the operation of more than 15,000 acres of farm land throughout the State. Its experts determine which crops can best be raised on each farm. Its land settlement department finds tenants for the farms until such time as they can be sold. And its farm sales department is busily engaged in bringing in farmers of the better type from other sections of the country-- farmers who know nothing and care nothing about cotton and consequently will not fall beneath the onslaughts of the boll weevil. And that's not all. As a result of this policy, the Atlanta Trust Co. has little money left in unproductive lands. For each unproductive farm has been made to produce at its best. Some of the crops grown on lands under its control are corn, oats, wheat, tobacco, alfalfa, okra, pimento, peppers, watermelons, peaches, pecans, and sorghum. Cotton, as a single crop, has been gotten away from, and diversified crops and livestock have taken its place on the farms handled by the company. In other words, the company has turned what seemed like absolute failure into success....Its farm operating department pays a dividend just like any other department of the big banking and trust company, and it is one of the biggest forces in the State for the development of better agriculture and the settlement of new and better farmers on its idle lands."

Dry Milk Institute

An editorial in Hoard's Dairyman for June 26 says: "A new dairy organization has been formed and is called the American Dry Milk Institute. The chief purpose of this institution is to collect information that may be of service to its members in making known general facts concerning the value of powdered skimmilk and to increase the public's opinion of it as a human food. Experiments in recent years have shown that skimmilk used in the manufacture of all kinds of bakery goods has materially increased their food value. It is a natural supplement to wheat flour, for skimmilk contains a perfect protein and is rich in mineral substances....Unfortunately skimmilk has been stigmatized and looked upon by a great many people as being an inferior food when in fact it is one of our best foods. Bread made with skimmilk and then buttered liberally, provides very nearly a balanced ration."

Farm Organization

An editorial in The Iowa Homestead for June 18 says: "In my opinion, the successful farm organization of the future must be able to show effective results in the way of cheaper marketing and stabilization of agricultural trade. They must more and more pattern after organized labor in using the principles of collective bargaining. Labor organizations thrive and grow more powerful because of the fact that they bring dollars and cents into the pockets of their members. They do not pretend to teach their members how to work, but they insist upon their members getting a fair price for their work. In many of the unions the dues are very high, as compared to those of farm organizations, yet they are paid without protest because these payments net big dividends. No job is too big for the right kind of a farm organization. To handle big projects, however, a farm organization must be financed, it must have leadership,and, most important of all, it must have an active membership. I regard the interest in stronger farm organizations, as evidenced in the letters I am receiving, as most encouraging. It shows that farmers themselves are beginning to recognize that the time is at hand for making farm organizations function in a larger and more practical manner than they have in the past. The work which is being done is not to be disparaged, but the fact remains that some of the largest farm organizations are experiencing serious decreases in membership, due to the one fact that the members do not, in many cases, feel that they are achieving results."

Grain Exchanges

An editorial in Modern Miller for June 20 says: "....The grain exchanges were organized to foster commercial marketing, but speculative trading has become dominant. To distribute wheat for commercial purposes is not as attractive as speculative profits. The grain exchanges must consider the effect of their functioning on the commercial grain trade and the milling industry. Milling can not be conducted on such a shifting price basis for raw material. No other industry contends with such a violent market for products used in manufacture. The farmer is the one usually considered in connection with wheat price shifts, but the miller is in a precarious position when his product is without price stability. The grain exchanges were not originally devised as playthings for Livermores. The interests of farmers, grain dealers, millers and exporters must be dominantly served, or the grain exchanges have been perverted to uses that will not be tolerated. This is about the decision that is being crystallized and the issue should be met fairly."

Section 3
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products For the week ended July 2, 1925: Imperial Valley Salmon Tint cantaloupes ranged from $3.25 to $4.50 per standard crate of 45 melons in consuming centers. Arizona Salmon Tints $4.75 in New York. California Honey Dews $1.50 to $2.25 per crate. Tennessee wrapped tomatoes sold 15¢ to 50¢ lower at $1.50 to $1.75 per four-basket crate in leading markets. Georgia Hiley peaches, though firm in one or two markets sold mostly 25¢ to $1 lower in distributing centers at $2 to $2.75 per six basket carrier and bushel basket, large sizes bringing as high as $3.50. Watermelons generally lower. At Valdosta, Ga., f.o.b. sales of Tom Watson averaging 22-28 pounds were $60 to $100 lower at $150 to $250 bulk per car. In terminal markets these melons ranged $2.25 to $4.25. Florida arrivals sold on about the same level as those from Georgia.

Chicago hog prices ranged from 50 to 55¢ higher than a week ago, closing at $14.15 for the top and $12.40 to $14.10 for the bulk. Medium and good beef steers 25¢ lower to 75¢ higher at $8.50 to $12.75; butcher cows and heifers 35¢ lower to 25¢ higher at $4 to $12.25; feeder steers steady to 60¢ higher at $6 to $8.25 and light and medium weight veal calves 25¢ lower to 50¢ higher at $9 to $11.75; fat lambs 50¢ lower at $14.24 to $16.50; yearlings 25 to 75¢ lower at $10 to $14; fat ewes 25¢ higher at $4.50 to $8.25.

Butter markets opened nervous and unsettled for the week ending July 2. Supplies were heavy and it was easily apparent that previous market levels had been strained. Prices declined 1 to 1 1/2¢ during the week. Closing prices on 92 score butter: New York 41¢; Chicago 41¢; Philadelphia 42¢; Boston 42¢.

Wholesale prices on Wisconsin primary cheese markets July 1: Twins 21 1/2¢; Cheddars 21 1/2¢; Single Daisies 22¢; Double Daisies 21 3/4¢; Young Americas 22¢; Longhorns 21 3/4¢; Square Prints 22 3/4¢.

Grain market continues downward trend. Wheat futures sharply lower on favorable crop developments at home and abroad. Rust claims persisting in Northwest but no reports of serious damage. New wheat in Southwest of high quality and moving earlier than usual. Practically no export demand for new crop hard winter wheat. Corn and oats easier with drop in wheat, also account improved crop conditions. Country offerings old crop oats continuing liberal.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets declined 36 points during the week, closing at 23.73¢ per lb. New York July future contracts declined 19 points, closing at 23.06¢.

Hay market news mixed but tone slightly firmer. Timothy generally firm. Alfalfa steady but prairie easier. Quoted July 2; No.1 timothy - Boston $24.75; New York $25.50; Pittsburgh $23; Cincinnati $23; Chicago $23; St. Louis $25.50. No.1 alfalfa - Omaha $16.50; Memphis $25. No.1 prairie - Kansas City $11; Omaha $12.25; Chicago $17; St. Louis $15.50; Minneapolis $17. (Prepared by the Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

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DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XVIII, No. 5 Section 1 July 7, 1925

THE GRAIN MARKETING COMPANY — A Chicago dispatch to the press to-day states that officers of the Grain Marketing Company, the $26,000,000 corporation lauched a year ago to facilitate the merger of four large mid-western grain firms in a project designed eventually to come under producer control, announced July 6 the stock-selling campaign among farmers had been definitely abandoned. John W. Coverdale, secretary-treasurer of the company, said the promotion work of the holding organization had not been pushed as vigorously as originally planned for the last thirty days and that the firm must find other means of meeting $4,000,000 in obligations falling due July 28. Officers and directors of the company assembled at Chicago, July 6, for a special meeting to consider the future course of the enterprise. An advance of $4,000,000 for operating expenses made by the merging firms must be repaid July 28, under the original contract terms. Officers of the company now are working on other plans to meet the obligation, but prior to the meeting none would discuss the proposals in hand.

NATIONAL FOREST WEEK — An Associated Press dispatch today states that Frank O. Lowden, former governor of Illinois, and chairman of the American forest week committee, announced yesterday that the observance each year of a national forest week "would be put upon a permanent basis." Notice of this proposal has been sent to the 88 organizations which cooperated in the forest week program which ended May 3. Headquarters will be in Washington.

AUSTRALIA PLANS MEAT COUNCIL — A Melbourne dispatch to the press of July 7 states that the Australian Government has decided to establish immediately a new Australian meat council, the function of which will be to help and guide the meat industry, especially in matters pertaining to Government meat inspection. The council will also be of assistance in freight questions and other issues involving collective negotiating and bargaining. Mutton and lamb exports are expected to be large the coming season, and the new wool clip, it is indicated, will be as heavy as last year.

ROUMANIAN HARVESTER DEBT — A Bucharest dispatch to the press of July 7 announces that the International Harvester Company, of Chicago, has reached a settlement with its Rumanian debtors for about $1,000,000 prewar accounts after several years' negotiations. The terms of the settlement are not announced, but it is understood they are similar to those made by British, Swiss and Italian creditors, whereby the debts were reduced to 35 per cent and the payments extended over seven years at 5 per cent.

Section 2

Business Farming

An editorial in Drovers Journal-Stockman for June 22 says: "A favorite line of talk to hand farmers nowadays is to urge them to watch how big business functions and apply the same methods to their own business. It sounds good and 'gets a hand' from farmer audiences. Even the Secretary of Agriculture suggests that farmers might profit by following the practices of big business. Let's see what following this advice would lead to: 'If followed literally, the plan would mean incorporating of all the farms into one or a few great corporations,' points out the Nebraska State Journal. 'The farmers would then become employees of the corporation instead of employers of themselves. Their joint properties would be bonded to about the value of the land. Preferred stock would be issued to cover the value of the improvements and tools and working capital. Common stock would be issued to control the enterprise and share in whatever extraordinary profits the concentration of the industry might produce. The first step would be the closing down of the less productive farms. Thus production would be reduced to about the amount the home demand would take at a price allowing a good profit on the entire investment, including that in the shut-down farms. The tariffs would then become effective in maintaining prices. Should imports flow in before farm prices were high enough to pay interest and dividends on the preferred stock and put some value into the common stock, Congress would be called upon to increase the tariff rates in order that farm hands might not have their wages reduced. We can see how farming might be made highly profitable by this method. But will the farmers be permitted to follow thus in the path of big business? We doubt it. As a people, we are now tolerant of, and rather friendly to, steel 'trusts' and clothing 'trusts' and the general gamut of alleged trusts. A 'bread' trust, touching the stomach, is another matter.'"

Canadian Fruit

Canadian orchardists and fruit growers produced a crop valued at $24,000,000 last year, according to a report issued by the Dominion Department of Agriculture. Of this total $16,835,969 worth was used for domestic consumption.

(Press, July 3.)

Farm Ownership

An editorial in Nation's Business for July says: "The agricultural ladder in the United States still looks attractive from the European point of view. 'The phrase "agricultural ladder,"' according to a recent very serious article published in Europe, 'has been coined, meaning the ladder of advancement on which a man climbs from the position of hired worker to the position of tenant, and again from that of tenant to the rights of a freeholder of his own farm... It is thus a phrase describing the opportunities of the worker originally working for wages to become the owner of his own tools of production and means of subsis-

tence, to live in his own dwelling on his own homestead, owning his own land, animals and machinery, and able to bequeath all of this to his heirs or, if he prefers, able to hand it all over during his lifetime and retire from business to leisured comfort in the nearest town. The phrase is significant of the desires and ideals of those who invented it, and the fact that the "climb up" is possible, nay common, and has been surveyed by scientific observers and Government departments, and has even been made the subject of statistical investigation, is in itself a comment on the conditions of a country where agriculture is an industry still fluid enough to allow of the accumulation and transfer of capital without great difficulty. It is one more proof that agriculture is as much under the influence of the general economic conditions of any particular country as is any other occupation. The great factor which distinguishes American wage earning is the frequent opportunity for workers to accumulate out of earnings.' All this may seem pretty idealistic to many American farmers who have been through the tribulations of recent years and who have put into the future their thoughts of retiring to 'leisured comfort in the nearest town,' nevertheless it is always refreshing to see ourselves as we appear in other people's eyes."

Federal Aid for Highways

An editorial in The Journal of Commerce for July 2 says: "President Coolidge has on a number of occasions seized the opportunity to express disapproval of the growing disposition to substitute Federal subsidies for projects whose cost might better be defrayed out of State revenues....This same question of Federal subsidies, specifically in aid of State highway construction, has come up again for discussion in the conference of Governors. Governor Ritchie of Maryland, who is leading the opposition to the present system, unfortunately attacks it from an interested angle which lays him open to the charge that his own arguments are colored by the selfishness and expediency with which he charges his opponents. Undoubtedly, as he proves by statistics, the older, richer commonwealths, with their systems of communication already well developed, contribute proportionately much more than they receive to the Federal funds out of which road subsidies as well as other expenses are defrayed. If this were not so there would be no reason for ever establishing a system of grants in aid. Governor Ritchie's statistics are interesting but not convincing. They could just as well be used to good advantage by representatives from the southern and western States to prove how necessary subsidies are. In a country of such diversity and such unequal degree of wealth as the United States the subsidy is in fact both a danger and a blessing, or at least it may prove to be such. Just as poorer counties within a State may require outside support for their schools and roads, so new States or impoverished States may be legitimately assisted from the combined resources of all the States. Presidential warnings and Governor Ritchie's denunciations ought not to lead to the hasty conclusion that every form of subsidy is essentially vicious. But it is salutary to indicate the serious possibilities of abuse inherent in the indefinite extension of the Federal subsidy principle...The South and West may properly be aided by the East in constructing highways that help to open up the country to all the people, but the most necessary public improvements can not be unduly hastened or provided regardless of cost. President Coolidge meant to force home this fact and to emphasize further the weakening effect upon local

governmental morale of too great reliance upon the central Government. It does not follow that the United States ought to disavow the subsidy principle in toto."

Japanese Labor "In some parts of the South there is a discussion as to the desirability of introducing Japanese farm laborers into this section. Some suggestion to that effect has been made based on the possibility that a great many Japanese now located on the Pacific Coast would be glad to move to the South. The South needs no Japanese laborers or farmers. Under no conditions should Japanese be brought into this region. No shortage of labor would justify introducing such an element into the South, and the people of the South should take heed from the lesson which California has had to learn from sad experience." (Manufacturers Record, July 2.)

Meat Trade Institute of American Meat Packers says: "June was a rather paradoxical month in the meat trade. The beef trade was very dull at the beginning,-but improved considerably during the last week. The outlook for the pork trade, on the other hand, was very satisfactory at the beginning of the month, but later the hog market advanced sharply, with the result that packers incurred severe losses on current operations. There was an improved demand for meats during June from the United Kingdom....Prices in the English market have shown improvement. Buying, however, is largely on a hand-to-mouth basis. Trade with the Continent was dull, both in meats and lard. There was a fair domestic demand for pork products during the latter part of the month....Although hog receipts at the seven leading markets for the first half of 1925 were some 15 per cent. lower than for the same period in 1924 and some 11 per cent. lower than for the same period in 1923, they were about 15 per cent. higher than during the first half of 1922, which was a more nearly normal year than either 1923 or 1924. Hide prices were considerably stronger."

Southwestern Crops An editorial in The Wall Street Journal for July 2 says: "'We feel confident of the future,' says a farmers' banker of the Southwest. Special investigation by this newspaper has easily shown that this was not based on any theory that people can bring about business prosperity by thinking and preaching it. There is an assured basis of solid facts....Aside from automobiles and farm machinery the farmers have not bought very heavily in the past year. Instead they have been putting their houses in order. They have taken up outstanding indebtedness and improved their situation in many ways. They are now well equipped and have a good crop prospect ahead of them. What they need they can, for the most part, buy and pay for outright. Taking this situation in connection with an unusually liquid condition of the banks throughout the whole southwestern territory it can be seen that there is ample reason for business confidence."

Section 3

MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

July 6: Tennessee wrapped tomatoes sold 10 to 15¢ lower in terminal markets at $1.50 to $1.75 per four basket carrier. Virginia Irish Cobbler potatoes 25¢ to 50¢ per barrel higher in eastern distributing centers at $4.50 to $5.25, with f.o.b. sales around $4.25 to $4.50 at East Shore points. California Salmon Tint cantaloupes ranged from $3 to $4.25 per standard 45 in consuming centers; $1.50 f.o.b. El Centro. Georgia peaches advanced in New York City but sold generally lower in other markets. Hileys and Belles closed at a range of $1.75 to $3.25 per six basket carrier and bushel basket, top of $3.75 in New York. Watermelon prices higher. Cash track prices of Tom Watsons, 22-30 pound average, were $100 to $350 bulk per car f.o.b. Valdosta, Ga.

Chicago hog prices closed at $14.75 for the top and $13.50 to $14.65 for the bulk. Medium and good beef steers $8.25 to $12.75; feeder steers $6 to $8.25; light and medium weight veal calves $9.25 to $11.75; fat lambs $13.75 to $16; yearlings $9.50 to $13.50; fat ewes $4.50 to $8.25.

Grain prices quoted July 6: No. 2 hard winter Chicago $1.45 to $1.45 1/2. No. 2 mixed corn Chicago 99 1/2 to $1.02; No. 2 yellow corn Chicago $1.02 to $1.03. No. 2 white corn Chicago $1.01 1/4 to $1.01 1/2. No. 3 white oats Chicago 44 to 44 3/4¢.

Closing prices on 92 score butter: New York 42¢; Chicago 42¢; Philadelphia 43¢; Boston 42 1/2¢.

Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets declined 86 points during the week, closing at 23.85¢ per lb. New York July future contracts declined 89 points, closing at 23.15¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

Industrials and Railroads

Average closing price July 6, July 3, July 6, 1924

20 Industrials	132.31	131.52	96.91
20 R. R. stocks	99.22	98.95	86.66

(Wall St. Jour., July 7.)

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol.XVIII, No. 6 Section 1 July 8, 1925.

THE PRESIDENT ON TAX REDUCTION

A Swampscott, Mass., dispatch to the press to-day states that President Coolidge announced yesterday as his taxation policy a general reduction of normal, surtax and inheritance taxes. President Coolidge was without the final estimates from the Treasury, which would justify him in forming any definite opinion as to how far the normal and surtax schedules in the revenue bill might be cut, but he does favor reducing both. He thinks that perhaps the 40 per cent maximum surtaxes can not be reduced much below 25 per cent, although he is willing to agree with those who would reduce them to 15 or 18 per cent if the surplus permits. As to inheritance taxes, with the maximum at 40 per cent, President Coolidge is definite in his opinion that they ought to be reduced, holding that in many cases they are confiscatory. It is his view, however, that the Federal Government can not repeal the inheritance taxes at present, but that they should be gradually extinguished.

THE GRAIN MARKETING COMPANY

A Chicago dispatch to the press to-day says: "Chicago bank creditors of the Grain Marketing Company were definitely advised July 7 that the affairs of the cooperative marketing venture would be wound up forthwith, the merged concerns resuming business in their own right when dissolution has been completed. Neither creditors nor stockholders will suffer loss under the plans developed yesterday. Banking interests which participated in an advance of $4,000,000 to the concern a year ago, for initial operating expenses, will be repaid fully and farmer-stockholders' equity in the corporation is fully covered by current liquid assets. Officers of the company confirmed yesterday that stock-selling activities had been abandoned....."

WAR PROFITS STUDY TO BE MADE

Bernard M. Baruch, former Chairman of the War Industries Board, has provided a fund of at least $250,000 for a three-year study into war profiteering as a cause of war and the possibility of preventing war by "taking the profits out of war." This was announced yesterday by Owen D. Young, former member of the Dawes Commission, and now chairman of the Board of Trustees, Walter Hines Page School of International Relations, Johns Hopkins University. The investigation will be carried on at Johns Hopkins and at foreign universities. At its conclusion all the information will be assembled in an international clearing house and a report made. When the research will begin will depend upon when the authorities of Johns Hopkins open the Sage School, which will administer the fund for Mr. Baruch. (Press, July 8.)

HIGHER SUGAR TARIFF URGED

A New York dispatch to the press of July 8 states that Dr. Alfredo Zayas, former President of Cuba and now actively engaged in sugar production in that country, in a statement July 7 urged the immediate raising of the United States tariff on foreign sugar, including Cuban, as a desirable constructive step in the protection of the Cuban sugar industry from the encroachment of competing foreign interests.

Section 2

Canadian Rural Credits Bill

An editorial in Ontario Farmer for July 4 says: "Farmers all over Canada, no matter what their political affiliations, will find it difficult to view the action of the King Government at Ottawa, in bringing down the Rural Credits bill in the dying hours of the session, as a genuine attempt to meet the needs of an undercapitalized agricultural industry. It savors more of a sop thrown out at the last minute, in an endeavor to hold the allegiance of farmer supporters. The Senate can not be blamed for refusing to consider the bill until the next session of Parliament. A matter of so vital importance as Dominion-wide rural credits can not be given the consideration it deserves in a few minutes' discussion, and it would seem that in view of its importance it might have been brought down at an earlier date, or the prorogation of Parliament postponed until adequate consideration of the measure could have been given."

Cooperative Marketing in Canada

The Journal of Agriculture and Horticulture (Montreal) for July 1 says: "Forty years experience of cooperative marketing in Denmark, and fifteen or twenty on this continent, have convinced most students of cooperation of the importance of organizing for marketing on a commodity basis, rather than on the basis of locality. That is to say, the most successful cooperatives seem to be those organized like our Canadian Cooperative Wool Growers, where one commodity only is handled, as contrasted with the many local cooperatives that have been formed to handle everything that the producers in that particular locality have to buy or sell--in most cases formed only to fail. The reasons for such failures among locals were: They were too small to ensure expert management; they competed against each other; they had no control over the movement of their commodities to market; they were unable to grade or standardize properly. It must be remembered that the marketing of wool, or of cheese, or of wheat, is not local in its aspect, but national or international and that each type of product has its own marketing problem. Hence, while locals may be used in assembling, the marketing of any commodity is best handled by a large central agency. And there is at present a notable movement towards the single commodity organization. The contract principle, discovered by Denmark many years ago, and in force in the largest and most important cooperatives in the United States (and gradually being taken up by Canadian cooperatives) has done perhaps more than any other thing to stabilize cooperative marketing. While it insures the loyalty of members, this is not by any means the only benefit derived by the cooperative from the contract system....."

Cotton Crop

An editorial in The Wall Street Journal for July 4 says: "Over 14,000,000 bales of cotton is the official estimate of this year's cotton crop based on the condition of June 25. Thus, we have the promise of the second largest crop in our history. Whether or not this June prospect will be realized is another matter....We are at the crossroads, for a change either way would upset all calculations. The department recognizes this fact and says that the final outcome of the crop will depend upon the weather. An unfavorable factor is the presence of weevils in the Atlantic and Gulf States. The infestation is already heavy enough to promise trouble unless the July weather is very hot and dry. Another is drought in Oklahoma and Texas, where there is about 48 per cent of the total acreage. A report received from Oklahoma says that while the crop now looks good it is difficult to see anything but a complete failure unless

there are good rains in July. One from Texas shows a serious condition there, particularly in the central and southern portion of the belt. Texas has no sub-soil moisture and the summer rains have only supplied surface moisture. Plants are stunted and in many cases are getting woody or maturing. Unless Texas has ample rains throughout July and August there will be a serious falling off in its crop. 'In the day of prosperity rejoice, but in the day of adversity consider.' The present prospect is for an unusual crop. Those who consume cotton should not overlook the chapter of accidents."

Dutch Rubber Tax

A Batavia dispatch to the press of July 7 says: "Imposition of a tax of 5 per cent on exports of native rubber from the Netherlands East Indies has been submitted to the Dutch Government by the Director of Finance of the Colony, according to a report sent July 6 to the Commerce Department by U. S. Trade Commissioner Van Wickel. The tax will not apply to rubber grown on a plantation and is believed to be an expedient for collecting revenue from native growers as the Government has found it practically impossible to collect the 12 1/2 per cent net profit tax from them....."

Sugar Consumption

An editorial in Nation's Business for July says: "How much sugar do you eat? If you live in the United States and are that average man of whom we love to talk, you use 100 pounds a year, two pounds a week. What would happen if all the world used sugar as freely as we do? Theo.H. Price, of Commerce and Finance, has taken his pencil in hand and figured that the world would use not 23,000,000 tons, as it now does, but 80,000,000 tons. Talks about the inch that some one hoped to put on the Chinaman's shirt tail set all our cotton mills working overtime. What will happen when the Chinaman really begins to use sugar? Will it come from Cuba? Or the beet fields of Colorado? Or will West Indian islands that have lain dormant for years start into new life? Perhaps cane and beet will both go by the board and the world will use some new sugar. At the recent meeting of the American Chemical Society the scientists talked about crystalline dextrose from corn at low cost. Perhaps Iowa will be the world's sugar bowl. One thing is sure about sugar: the more folks eat, the more they will eat. Teach the natives of Central Africa to use sugar, and they'll want more. They will even work for it."

Tenant Farming in England

J. P. Goodwin is the author of an article on this subject in The Field Illustrated for July. He says in part: "Notwithstanding the great movement in the direction of the purchase of farms in England by the tenants, a movement which has been one of the most remarkable features of English agriculture since the war, it is, perhaps, surprising when one comes to actual figures to find how small is still the number of farms owned by the farmers occupying them. Official figures issued by the Ministry of Agriculture dealing with the year 1924 show that the total acreage of crops and grass in England and Wales amounts to 25,876,797, but the acreage owned by occupiers is no more than 6,574,044, representing a percentage of only 25.4. Taking the number of holdings, counting only those exceeding one acre, it is found that there are in England and Wales 409,383, but only 94,236 are owned by the tenants, or 23 per cent. Thus, whichever way the figures are regarded, it is proved that the steady break up of the large estates has so far left round about 75 per cent of the cultivated land still in the hands of the landlords. It is, therefore, true to say that the basic system of farming in Great Britain

remains the same as during the past two hundred years or more. It is of importance to watch the progression of these figures relating to farms rented or owned, for they indicate the gradual removal of a considerable amount of cheap capital from the industry whenever farm lands pass out of the possession of the landowner into that of the small farmer."

Wheat Trading An editorial in The Magazine of Wall Street for July 4 says: "Recent publication of data bearing on the speculation in wheat during the early part of the year has been accompanied by indirect threats that unless manipulation in the wheat pit can be checked, the Government might not be averse to seeing new legislation put on the books which would tend to limit the speculative machinery. The weakness of this attitude can be appreciated from the fact that official or semi-official resentment against wheat manipulation seems to have been caused by the recent drastic decline but not by the preceding advance. In other words, if wheat goes up, O.K., but if wheat goes down, then let's set the wolves loose. Of course, such an attitude is dictated by political necessity, the farmers of the Northwest complaining bitterly against the last drive against the price of their product. The administration probably feels that it must stand in well with the farmers. Hence, the possibility of new legislation, unless the Chicago Board of Trade takes action first. We are not in sympathy with an administration attempt to reform the methods of the Chicago Board of Trade merely because of political necessity. Such a cure would be worse than the evil it pretended to eradicate and would set an unwelcome precedent. Undoubtedly, the Chicago Board of Trade can be counted on to improve its machinery of trading, if it is required, without the urge of possible Government action induced by political expediency."

Section 3

Department of Agriculture The Florists Exchange for June 27 quotes from a document of the Federation Nationale des Syndicats Horticoles de France as follows: "These last 10 years the nurserymen and growers of nursery stocks in France have been placed in a very serious condition through the prohibitive decisions of Doctor Marlatt and his board. These growers were for some time in an uncertainty as to whether importation of nursery stocks into the U.S.A. would be prohibited or not, so somewhat reduced the quantities they usually grew; later on, the total prohibition of ornamental stocks caused a heavy loss, for the plants grown, being unsold, had to be destroyed. Already affected by the present regulation, French growers are now placed in a more painful condition by the threat of the F.H.B. to prohibit the importation of the few plants that are still admitted into the United States under ordinary permit, that is the fruit tree stocks and Manetti stocks....The opinion of the members of our federation is that the United States was sufficiently protected by Quarantine No. 37 as it was carried out in 1918-19, and that instead of establishing a state of commercial war between the various nations it would be more profitable to every country if the phytopathological service of every nation met every year or corresponded, discussing the necessary measures to be adopted to clean all cultures and permit the importation of plants under a serious and careful control, thus serving to hinder the propagation of damaging pests of any sorts. Doctor Marlatt says that he adopted the same regulation as France which in 1898 prohibited the importation of plants from the United States in order to protect our culture from the invasion of the San Jose scale....After repeated demands addressed to the French Government, we may now say that France is disposed to cancel or alter the decree of 1898 if the United States amends its prohibition and admits the importation of plants on the

rules established prior to 1918. Our Government would accept the importation of plants after a permit of importation ~~of plants after a permit of importation~~ has been delivered and the goods, accompanied with a phytopathological certificate, delivered by the United States Government. Most of the members of our federation are free traders and absolutely against any prohibition, but we must say that this is not the opinion of all our friends, who are convinced that the decision of the F.H.B. will very shortly lead to the exclusion of all foreign horticultural goods. If this is realized, as Mr. Marlatt and some others hope, this will certainly alter our point of view and we shall be compelled to ask our Government to reciprocate and have a close inspection made on every American agricultural product, and to decide on embargoes if insects or pests are discovered (and this will certainly occur) in the importation of corn, fruits or any other product....."

Section 4

MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

July 7: Virginia Irish Cobbler potatoes strengthened to a range of $5.25 to $5.75 per barrel in leading markets, $4.75 to $5 f.o.b. East Shore points. Maryland tomatoes sold at $3.50 to $4 per six-basket carrier in a few eastern cities with South Carolina stock $3 to $3.50. California Salmon Tint cantaloupes weaker, ranging $3.25 to $4.25 per standard 45 in terminal markets; $1.40 to $1.50 f.o.b. El Centro. Georgia peaches, Belles and Hileys, ranged $1.75 to $2.75 per bushel basket and six-basket carrier, top of $3.25 in New York; $1.25 to $1.75 f.o.b. Macon, section. Florida, Georgia and South Carolina Tom Watson watermelons, 22-30 pound average ranged $350 to $550 bulk per car in leading markets and $125 to $400 f.o.b. Waldosta.

Chicago hog prices closed at $14.50 for the top, bulk of sales $12.75 to $14.25; medium and good beef steers $8.25 to $12.75; butcher cows and heifers $3.75 to $12.75; feeder steers $6 to $8.25; light and medium weight veal calves $10 to $12.50; fat lambs $13.25 to $15.35; yearlings $9.50 to $13.25; fat ewes $4.50 to $8.25.

Grain prices quoted July 7: No.1 dark northern Minneapolis $1.47 1/2 to $1.64 1/2. No.2 red winter St.Louis $1.52 to $1.55; Kansas City $1.50 to $1.50 1/2; No.2 hard winter Chicago $1.48; Kansas City $1.47 to $1.50. No.3 mixed corn Chicago $1; Minneapolis $1; No.2 yellow corn Chicago $1.06 1/4; Kansas City $1.06. No.3 yellow corn Chicago $1.03 1/4; Minneapolis $1.03; Kansas City $1.01; No.2 white corn St.Louis $1.07; No.3 white oats Chicago 45¢; Minneapolis 43 1/8 to 43 3/8¢; St.Louis 47¢; No.2 white oats Kansas City 50¢.

Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets advanced 32 points, closing at 24.17¢ per lb. New York July future contracts advanced 35 points, closing at 23.50¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.).

Industrials and Railroads

Average closing price	July 7,	July 6,	July 7, 1924
20 Industrials	132.70	132.31	96.91
20 R.R. stocks	99.38	99.02	86.66

(Wall St. Jour., July 8.)

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XVIII, No. 7. Section 1. July 9, 1925.

MACARONI EXPORT An Atlantic City dispatch to the press to-day says: "The United States last year exported 7,500,000 pounds, or more than 1,000,000 miles of macaroni, surpassing even Italy as a producer of this food, according to figures presented at the twenty-second annual convention of the National Macaroni Manufacturers' Association at Atlantic City. A resolution will be adopted by the association, it is said, calling on the pure food division of the Government to compel all macaroni manufacturers to place upon all containers a label stating the true commercial classification or the cereal from which their product is made."

THE GRAIN MARKETING COMPANY A Chicago dispatch to the press to-day says: "Dissolution of the Grain Marketing Company apparently became a certainty yesterday when the Armour Grain Company, the largest unit in the merger, and Rosenbaum Brothers applied for the right to do business in their own names again on the Board of Trade. Permission was granted at a special meeting of the directors. The Armour Grain Company, it was announced, will take over all the Grain Marketing Company's open grain contracts, amounting to about 3,000,000 bushels. George E. Marcy, head of the Armour Grain Company and an executive of the Grain Marketing Company, virtually admitted as much. The Grain Marketing Company will return to the Armour Grain Company, the Rosenbaum Grain Corporation and Rosenbaum Brothers properties it has been operating under lease for a year. The company has made a good profit and no loss is expected. Stock subscriptions will be refunded, it is believed, and the grain companies probably will obtain $4,000,000 they advanced for working capital. All doubt that the dissolution of the company as now constituted will take place on July 28 was set at rest by a statement issued by representatives of the grain companies merged...."

A COOPERATIVE FAILURE An editorial on the dissolution of the Grain Marketing Company in to-day's Washington Post says: "Failure of the farmers to subscribe to stock in the Grain Marketing Company is causing that corporation to be dissolved. It is the largest and most ambitious venture in cooperation upon which the agricultural interests were asked to embark. It began operations under favorable auspices, with four large grain companies participating by throwing their properties into the combination. These properties valued at $16,407,000, will be turned back to the companies.... It is regrettable that the legislation intended to facilitate cooperative marketing by the farmers has not proved adequate; or, if adequate, that the first large undertaking under the law has proved a failure. As matters stand the public is apt to conclude that there was something wrong with the promotion plan, rather than with the law. Certainly the grain-growing farmers are well able to finance a cooperative marketing plan, and there is no legal impediment to cooperation."

Section 2

Agricultural Legislation

An editorial in The Country Gentleman for July 11 says: "Members of the American Farm Bureau Federation are being queried to find out what legislation the organization should go after. A questionnaire lists some thirty different items for possible legislation. Such a move may be excusable on the ground that the organization should know what its members think. But if it is necessary to go to such lengths to discover a demand for legislation it may very well be presumed that the demand is faint. As a matter of fact, the probability is that what most farmers, as well as other ordinary citizens, want is less legislation instead of more. There is too much of a tendency of organizations -- farmer, commercial, social and what not -- to justify their existence by seeking legislation. If a quiet spell comes along the organization feels it must show that it is on the job and there follows a beating of the brush and the hedgerows for a legislative issue. It is one reason why this is the most law-ridden nation the world has ever known."

Bankers and Farming

An editorial in The Wall Street Journal for July 8 says: "An interesting banking experiment was launched at Lincoln a few days ago. Two hundred and seven Nebraska bankers left their desks, assembling in a class at the State College of Agriculture for a two-day course of intensive study. If repeated every year, as planned, this work must result in greatly increasing the wealth of the State. Lectures were specially arranged for the occasion. The course included land valuation, soil fertility, crop rotation, breeding and feeding livestock, judging beef and dairy cattle, and marketing farm products. At the close the members of the class were so enthusiastic that there seems little doubt of its being made an annual event. It is to be hoped also that bankers' associations of other States will take up the idea and carry the work along. Agriculture is the chief industry of the western and southern States, and there is no one more vitally interested in the prosperity of the farmers than the bankers. There is no one who needs expert advice more than the farmer, and there is no one in better position to give it than the banker. It follows, therefore, that the bankers should know more about farming, livestock production and marketing of farm products than the farmers themselves. Our National Government and the States spend large sums in research and experimental work. The fund of knowledge already available, if properly used, should add immensely to our agricultural wealth. In contrast with what might be, witness the appeals made for relief by political means in every period of depression, or of an overproduction of an important crop, and of the expressions of discontent when the price of a product is high and it is found that the supply is unduly small. Knowledge, like food, does no good unless it is used. As expressed, the plan is for each banker to 'clean up his own financial backyard.' Evidently that means that aside from watching his loans the banker is to be the adviser of the farmers of his community....A few years ago a banker in a little town in Oklahoma held a poultry show in the lobby of his bank. In this way he interested his customers in thoroughbred poultry. Results were so satisfactory that he led them into livestock, and what was a one-crop community soon had diversified farming. That bank told The Wall Street Journal

that increased deposits proved the worth of the plan. The Nebraska idea is the same, but on a larger scale. Let us hope it will spread."

Butter Tariff

An editorial in New England Homestead for June 27 says: "It is expected that President Coolidge will approve the dairymen's demand of an increase from 8 to 12 cents per pound in the tariff on butter imported from other countries. At least he refused to lower the sugar tariff, giving as a reason that domestic sugar beet growers were entitled to protection. However, the President should have insisted that the farmers who grow the beets should get a fairer share of the tariff. Meanwhile the United States Tariff Commission still has to hear from the dairy interests before advising the President whether to raise or lower the present tariff on vegetable oils. That stuff is freely used in making imitation butter, but even here high tariff may be favored on the ground of increasing the production by American farmers of soy beans and other oil producing vegetables."

Cotton Production

An editorial in The Journal of Commerce for July 8 says: "It is very salutary for the American cotton planter to be told occasionally that the United States is not the only country capable of producing cotton in large amounts. When excited Englishmen talk about the need of emancipating British industry from its bondage to the foreign grower, the average American is apt to discount such statements or even look upon them as the rather hysterical demands of super-patriots. It is quite another matter when an American expert -- the Chief of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics -- issues a similar warning. 'Higher prices for cotton,' says this authority, 'stimulate competition in outside areas, and once production is started in competing countries, it will continue. This will tend, of course, to absorb our markets abroad.' Admitting that the developmental work which is now going on actively aided by British capital in colonial areas is yet in its infancy, the admonition just quoted is timely. Great areas in Africa and Asia require only better agricultural organization and improved transport facilities to develop cotton culture on a great scale. The American grower will undeniably hasten that development by extravagant methods of production, involving excess costs and shortsighted insistence upon a policy of unduly high prices."

Dairy Trade Conference

The Dairy Trade Conference to be held in Philadelphia on August 6 and 7 will consider three of the most important problems of the united dairy industry -- the relations between cooperatives and the trade, between the dairy industry and the public, and finally the all important problem of how to increase sales of dairy products, according to an announcement to-day from the program committee. A general invitation has been extended to all divisions of the dairy trade to attend this conference. It is to be held at the University of Pennsylvania during the week when the dairy cooperatives have the floor in the work of the American Institute of Cooperation then in session at that institution. The American Institute of Cooperation, The American Dairy Federation and a number of other dairy organizations are cooperating in the arrangements for this trade conference.

Grain Marketing Company

An editorial in The Journal of Commerce for July 8 says: "Despite the vagueness and obscurity of the sundry reports that have for some time past been in circulation respecting the situation in which the Grain Marketing Corporation finds itself, it is reasonably clear and apparently a fact that the farmers of the country have not been particularly enthusiastic about taking up the stock of this concern. The company in question was ostensibly designed to afford grain growers an opportunity to rid themselves of dependence upon 'capitalistic' and financial interests so far as the marketing of a large portion of their crop was concerned. Those who have posed as spokesmen for the farmers of this country have long maintained that the producers were being heavily imposed upon by 'middle men,' chief among whom were commission merchants and dealers in grain and other commodities of a similar character. It is more than likely that by dint of continued preachments of this sort the rank and file of the actual farmers themselves have become more or less convinced that such was the case....Possibly the farmer with a certain native shrewdness suspected that there was too much of the desire and intention to attempt price control and market rigging in the whole affair and intuitively felt that there was too much risk attached to any such effort. Perhaps the necessity of putting up his hard earned cash without any positive assurance of being able to get hold of his capital again if or when he wanted it or even of receiving regular and reasonable returns upon his funds, brought home to him the fact that the farmer, like anyone else, must employ and risk his savings if he is to go into the business of wholesale distribution of grain. Probably he has learned to see clearly that the process or processes of taking grain from the bins of the farmer and distributing it to the mills or through the mills to the table of the ultimate consumer are operations that entail legitimate, even inevitable, expense, to say nothing of large risks...."

Peteet on Cooperative Marketing

Walton Peteet, secretary of the National Council of Cooperative Marketing Associations, is the author of an extensive article entitled "Farming Gets Into Big Business," in The Country Gentleman for July 11. In this he says: "There isn't any great difference to-day among the real cooperative leaders concerning methods and forms of organization. We have nearly all come to accept what is commonly known as the commodity type. Most of the new cooperatives are now being organized on the commodity marketing plan, including the new fruit and vegetable bodies of the South, the State potato pools, the wheat pools and others. Following the widespread enactment of the uniform cooperative law, originally written by Aaron Sapiro, in thirty-seven States, a number of the older cooperatives of other types are now being changed over to the commodity basis. The principle is a simple one -- organize on a commodity basis, with long-time member contracts, internal pooling by grades, with local organization where necessary to receive, grade and handle products from the farm, and central associations to sell them. The significant thing about the present status of cooperative marketing doesn't lie in the figures as to numbers of organizations or members and total amounts of business transacted, impressive as these figures are. It lies more in the fact that enough of the big cooperatives have succeeded on a big plane to make clear that the movement has become permanently successful and that it has been accepted as a part of our country's business system....Thirty-four large cooperatives, operating in

about twenty-five States, with a membership of 620,000 farmers are now included in the National Council of Farmers' Cooperative Marketing Associations. This is an overhead service organization which includes wheat, cotton, tobacco, potato, fruit, vegetable, egg, poultry, seed, rice, onion and dairy products...."

Section 3
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products July 8: Virginia Irish Cobbler potatoes ranged 75¢ to $1.50 per barrel higher, East Shore stock closing at $5.75 to $6.50 in city markets; $4.75 to $5.50 f.o.b. Imperial Valley Salmon Tint cantaloupes ranged $3 to $4.25 per standard 45 in consuming centers; $1.40 to $1.50 f.o.b. El Centro. California Honey Dew melons $1.50 to $2.25. Georgia Belles peaches brought mostly $2 to $3 per bushel basket and six-basket carrier, top of $3.50 in New York. Delaware and Maryland Yellow Transparent apples sold in eastern cities at $2 to $2.50 per bushel basket. Tom Watsons of 22-30 pounds each nearly doubled the returns to growers at Valdosta, Ga., closing at $110 to $350 bulk per car.

Chicago hog prices closed at $14 for the top and $12.60 to $13.90 for the bulk. Medium and good beef steers $8.25 to $12.50; butcher cows and heifers $3.75 to $12.25; feeder steers $6 to $8.25; light and medium weight veal calves $10 to $12.75; fat lambs $13.25 to $15.35; yearlings $9.50 to $13.25; fat ewes $4.50 to $8.25.

Closing prices on 92 score butter: New York 42 1/4¢; Chicago 42¢; Philadelphia 43 1/2¢; Boston 43¢.

Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets up 33 points, closing at 24.50¢ per lb. New York July future contracts advanced 42 points, closing at 23.92¢.

Grain prices quoted July 8: No. 1 dark northern Minneapolis $1.53 to $1.70, No. 2 red winter St. Louis $1.57 to $1.59; Kansas City $1.51 to $1.53. No. 2 hard winter Chicago $1.52; St. Louis $1.53; Kansas City $1.51 to $1.55. No. 3 mixed corn Chicago $1.03; Minneapolis $1.02 3/4. No. 2 yellow corn St. Louis $1.10; Kansas City $1.09. No. 3 yellow corn Chicago $1.09 3/4; Minneapolis $1.07 1/4. No. 2 white corn Chicago $1.08; Kansas City $1.04. No. 3 white oats Chicago 46¢; Minneapolis 43 3/8 to 43 5/8¢; St. Louis 48¢; Kansas City 49 1/4¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.).

Industrials and Railroads

Average closing price	July 8,	July 7,	July 8, 1924.
20 Industrials	133.07	132.70	97.56
20 R. R. stocks	98.89	99.38	87.27

(Wall St. Jour., July 9.)

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

VOL. XVIII, NO. 8 Section 1. July 10, 1925.

THE PRESIDENT HOLDS AGRICULTURAL CONFERENCES

The Washington Post to-day says: "At White Court President Coolidge is holding conferences with a number of Republican Senatorial leaders and other Republicans who know something about agriculture and the farmers' problems. Secretary of Agriculture Jardine is touring the agricultural States of the West and Northwest looking into conditions, making inquiries of the farmers, and at the same time giving them some sound advice. Presumably, Mr. Jardine will go over the entire agricultural situation with the President at Washington or at Swampscott. In the meantime Mr. Coolidge will hear from Congress leaders, notably Senator Curtis, of Kansas, and from David W. Mulvane, Republican national committeeman for Kansas, and probably also from heads of farm organizations throughout the country....It is not at all improbable that the President will submit to the Congress in his address to that body next December a comprehensive proposal for some legislation bearing upon agriculture and the needs of the farmers....Some of the President's advisers have told him that no laws can cure the farmers' ills, and that their salvation lies in helping themselves. The failure of the Grain Marketing Company, however, would seem to indicate that something must be done by Congress to help the farmers, particularly to safeguard them against depressions such as they have suffered from in the past....The President is convinced that the farmer needs help. He is not sure, perhaps, what form this help should take. But he is trying to find out through conferences what may possibly be done in a legislative way to make more certain the continued prosperity of the agricultural classes. When Congress meets in December, the Executive doubtless will have evolved a practical program."

FOREIGN LAND BANK SURVEY

Guy Huston, head of six of the country's joint stock land banks, sailed yesterday for Europe, where he will study the land bank systems of Austria, Italy and France. "We talk a lot about what we are doing for the farmer," he said, "but we are away behind the times and we are only beginning to help him solve his problems. More has been done in the last seven years than before but still we have nothing to boast about." (N. Y. Times, July 8.)

THE GRAIN MARKETING COMPANY

An Associated Press dispatch from Chicago to-day states that Gray Silver, president of the Grain Marketing Company, $26,000,000 merger enterprise, formally announced yesterday that affairs of the organization would be liquidated at once. His statement said dissolution of the cooperative endeavor would not close the way to producers who planned to market their grain through cooperative agencies this season. The implications of this suggestion were not made clear by Mr. Silver, but subordinate officers of the corporation received it as indicating that an attempt might be made to execute the original plan on a less extensive scale.

Section 2.

Cheese Industry

An editorial in The Pacific Dairy Review for June 25 says: "The report that one of the largest cheese concerns in the country is about to enter the loaf cheese business in California will serve to arouse more local interest in this class of cheese at the producing end. The cheese trade and consumers are already fairly familiar with it. One only needs to go into a grocery or other retail food store and he realizes that during the past few years the cheese trade has been almost revolutionized as a result of the advent of loaf, or, as it is sometimes called, processed, cheese. It no doubt accounts for a marked increase in cheese consumption....The loaf cheese idea is not only sweeping over this country but is becoming popular in Great Britain and Canada. It seems to us that it is going to be a boon to cheese producers, the trade and consumers."

Cooperative Marketing

An editorial in The Oklahoma Farmer-Stockman for July 1 says: "Enemies of cooperative commodity marketing have a favorite statement. It is that farmers will never sign one of these iron-clad contracts a second time. The statement is interesting but it must be admitted that it has little basis for truth. Thus far in the United States, every iron-clad binding commodity contract which has expired at the end of the five or seven-year period has been re-signed so as to cover a larger percentage of the crop than the marketing association had before. The most recent illustration of this is the Connecticut Valley Tobacco Association, whose first marketing contract will expire in 1926. The association put on a re-sign-up campaign a year ahead of time in order that the work of the association might proceed without interruption. The campaign came to a close on May 25th with a larger part of the tobacco crop of Massachusetts and Connecticut in the pool than was signed up in the first membership campaign in 1922. It developed that more than 85 per cent of the old members were so well satisfied with the operations of the pool that they signed again, and that out of the remaining 15 per cent nearly all had quit growing tobacco, had moved out of the country or had died. Contracts of the Oklahoma Wheat Growers Association and the Texas Farm Bureau Cotton Association also expire in 1926, and, like the Connecticut Valley Tobacco Association, they are putting on re-sign-up campaigns a year ahead of time."

Farmer Aid

An editorial in Farm and Ranch for June 27 says: "A man who stands high in financial circles, and also owns farms in various sections of Texas, was the author of a statement some months ago to the effect that the solution of soil-improvement and other farming betterments would come by more strict requirements on the part of bankers as a basis for crop loans. His general idea appeared to be that the banker should lay out the farming scheme as to crops and practices, and make his loan contingent on the farmer accepting them. In short, the financier would pull the reins over the farmer while the farmer only pulled the reins over the mules. Worried and exasperated by a certain type of shiftless farmers, perhaps the banker feels justified in proposing some such solution. But is it a solution? Will compulsory measures instill better methods into a farmer to the extent that he will

become independent? Rather, will they not sap whatever measure of independence he still retains and destroy the last spark of initiative? The greatest weakness in the farming industry today is the supplicatory spirit that has crept into it. The eternal hope of political pap that is perennially promised by propagandists has enticed too many farmers away from that self-reliance that was and is the best characteristic of the American farmer. If farmers by their indifference allow themselves to be drawn into the position of economic serfs with financial over-lords, then farming is not the dignified vocation that a self-respecting man can follow."

Farmer Buying Power

"The buying power of the farmer, according to the executive manager of the National Association of Credit Men, is not normal as yet, but greatly improved in comparison with a year ago. This is good news for everybody. Farming remains our basic industry, with every other dovetailed into it and dependent on it. The prosperity of Minnesota and Kansas has a direct relation to that of New England and New York. We are too much accustomed to thinking provincially and considering ourselves in the East independent of the trans-Mississippi West, but the fact is, of course, that no large class or section can economically suffer without affecting the entire country. The ability of the western tiller of the soil to spend more in his neighborhood markets is commensurately of national advantage." (Providence Journal, July 3.)

Farmer Radicalism and Railroads

An editorial in The Wall Street Journal for July 9 says: "One of the most hopeful signs of the times is seen in the rapid decay of radicalism among the farmers. The common sense of the people is returning. There is a growing realization that society is already organized upon a cooperative basis, with the prosperity of any one class dependent upon the prosperity of all the others. An incident illustrating the change in feeling recently occurred in a far western part of Kansas. In a little group of men, mostly farmers, one, a relic of the decaying order, was giving vent to his views which, of course, were denunciatory of everything that is. He ended by fervently wishing that every railroad in the State might be ruined and driven out. Another farmer spoke up, 'A fine time you would have hauling your wheat to Kansas City 350 miles away.' Formerly, Grant County in southwestern Kansas produced no wheat. But the Atchison Railroad built a branch across it and last year the county produced 500,000 bushels, equal to 500 carloads. Here is the reverse of that picture. Baca County in eastern Colorado is as level and fertile as Grant, and five times as large. Why shouldn't it raise five times as much wheat? In 1923 that county produced 1,000,000 bushels of hard winter wheat, and the population then was 13,000. In 1924 the wheat yield of the Southwest was unusually large per acre, but Baca County produced only 100,000 bushels, or one-tenth what it did in 1923. The population also was reduced to 9,000. A glance at the railroad map will show the reason. The branch of the Atchison before referred to stops at Manton, in Stanton County, Kansas, one of the border counties. From Springfield, the seat of Baca County, to the railroad point at Manton is a distance of 40 miles, and Baca farmers in 1923 were raising wheat 30 miles west of Springfield. They could not afford to haul wheat from

40 to 75 miles to a railroad, and therefore gave up and many of them left the county, probably broken financially. All because they were from 40 to 75 miles away from a railroad over which they could ship their wheat to Kansas City 400 miles away. There is no answer to a fact like this, and western farmers are beginning to see and appreciate it."

Section 3

Department of Agriculture (1)

An editorial in The Journal of Commerce for July 9 says: "Whatever may be the content of the Government report, to be issued this afternoon, it is now pretty well established that our winter wheat crop this year will not prove to be more than around 400,000,000 bushels and that it may yield substantially less than that amount. In its report issued early in April the Department of Agriculture predicted a yield of 474,255,000 bushels. A month later the Government forecast was 444,833,000 bushels. In its April report the department was forced to reduce its figure for prospective yield to 407,156,000. This is most certainly not a good record for a Government office which maintains a large staff and expends relatively large sums for the purpose of affording the public accurate and up-to-the-minute information concerning crop conditions and prospects. No criticism is to be leveled at the April estimate of 474,255,000 bushels....The June report of the Department of Agriculture came a good deal nearer the truth than had the figure published a month earlier. Not a few careful observers in the business community, however, doubted at the time whether the Government had yet come down enough in its estimates....The April figures of The Journal of Commerce were practically the same as those of the Government. In its May report, however, this newspaper asserted that a total yield of 304,936,000 bushels was indicated in the States of Indiana, Illinois, Kansas, Michigan, Missouri, Nebraska, Ohio, Oklahoma and Pennsylvania, and in an editorial statement published shortly thereafter stated that 'if the relation between our forecast in the States actually covered and that of the Government in the same States were applied to the Government's figures for the country as a whole a total yield of a little less than 408,400,000 bushels would be obtained.' The Government May figure for the States above listed was 322,630,000 bushels, and for the country as a whole, as already stated, 444,833,000 bushels. Adverse conditions during the month of May led The Journal of Commerce to reduce its June estimate for the States already listed to 287,412,000 bushels, a figure practically duplicated in the June report of the Department of Agriculture, although in order to obtain that figure the department was forced to cut its May figure far more severely than developments during May itself made necessary. The Journal of Commerce obtained its figures throughout all these months by the simple process of computing weighted averages of reports from correspondents residing in the leading winter wheat producing districts of the country. It is inconceivable that any other responsible organization, to say nothing of the Government itself, could not have obtained similar results from the same simple and inexpensive process."

Department of Agriculture (2)

The Florists Exchange for July 4 says: "The disinterested and discerning editorial eye of the World's Work has unerringly pierced the confusion of the quarantine controversy and, as a result, the July issue of that journal contributes a constructive suggestion that is in our opinion as valuable as it is soundly justified. Pointing out that Secretary Jardine is, in this connection, 'confronted with the unpleasant duty of deciding a highly technical question' on which authorities do not agree, the World's Work makes the following comparison and recommendation in which we heartily concur and which we commend to all our readers and to the Secretary of Agriculture, too."

The editorial referred to, and quoted, was reprinted in full in Daily Digest for June 26. It made the suggestion that an outside board, similar to the Remsen Board, which acted upon the administration of the Pure Food act during its administration by Dr. Harvey W. Wiley, might be created to act as a board of review upon decisions of the Federal Horticultural Board.

Section 4
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

July 9: Potato markets gained considerable strength as prices of barreled stock advanced $1 to $1.50 in four days. At points on the East Shore of Virginia Irish Cobblers sold actively at $5.75 to $6 per barrel f.o.b. In leading city markets these potatoes ranged $6 to $6.75. Imperial Valley Salmon Tint cantaloupes closed at a range of $3.50 to $4 per standard 45 in the East and $3 to $3.50 in midwestern cities with f.o.b. trading $1.50 at El Centro. Georgia peaches, Hileys and Belles mostly $2 to $2.75 per bushel basket and six basket carrier. Tom Watson watermelons of 24-30 pound average from Georgia and Florida sold on the New York auction at $375 to $575 bulk per car with growers at Valdosta, Ga. receiving $130 to $350.

Chicago hog prices closed at $13.95 for the top and $13.10 to $13.85 for the bulk. Medium and good beef steers $8.25 to $12.50; butcher cows and heifers $3.75 to $12.25; feeder steers $6 to $8.25; light and medium weight veal calves $11 to $13; fat lambs $13.25 to $15.50; yearlings $9.50 to $13.25 and fat ewes $4.50 to $8.25.

Closing prices on 92 score butter: New York 42¢; Chicago 42¢; Philadelphia 43 1/2¢; Boston 43¢.

Grain prices quoted July 9: No. 1 dark northern Minneapolis $1.53 to $1.70. No. 2 red winter St. Louis $1.56 to $1.60. No. 2 hard winter Chicago $1.52 1/4; Kansas City $1.53. No 2 mixed corn Kansas City $1.02; No. 3 mixed corn Chicago $1.06. No. 1 yellow corn Kansas City $1.10; No. 2 yellow corn Chicago $1.10; St. Louis $1.10. No. 3 yellow corn Chicago $1.09; Minneapolis $1.04 1/4; No. 3 mixed corn 99 3/4¢. No. 2 white corn Chicago $1.08 1/2; St. Louis $1.09; Kansas City $1.04. No. 3 white oats Chicago 47 1/2¢; St. Louis 48 1/2¢; Kansas City 49¢; Minneapolis 43¢.

Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets down 21 points, closing at 24.29¢ per lb. New York July future contracts declined 37 points, closing at 23.55¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.).

Industrials and Railroads

Average closing price	July 9,	July 8,	July 9, 1924
20 Industrials	131.83	133.07	97.40
20 R. R. stocks	98.60	98.89	87.32

(Wall St. Jour., July 10.)

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

VOL. XVIII, NO. 9. Section 1 July 11, 1925.

SECRETARY JARDINE IN IOWA

The New York Times, in an editorial to-day, says: "Secretary Jardine in his journey back from the Mountain States through the Middle West paused to make an address yesterday in Iowa, the State of former Secretary Wallace. To him he paid high tribute, saying that 'the farmers of America never had truer friend.' It is Iowa farmers, he remarked who, with the possible exception of those in the inter-mountain sections, have suffered more than any other group. He recognized their plight, but could offer no one 'cure-all.' The main causes of the farmer's troubles -- excessive production and the loss of foreign markets -- suggest the remedies. The balance must somehow be restored. Despite our best efforts, there will be times when surpluses will depress prices. A consequence should be the exercising of better control over the extension of our farm land area. Upon cooperative marketing he lays most stress, as did Governor Lowden in his address here a few weeks ago. 'I know,' said Secretary Jardine, 'of no single factor that can be more useful than a well-managed cooperative association in helping the farmer to adjust his production to the demands of the market, improve the quality of his product, and feed it to the market when and where it is needed.' If that means that the farmer is going to have his fairer share of what the consumers pay for their food, they will wish success to this movement, for America cannot continuously prosper unless those who supply its basic wants are able to carry on their work with hope and profit. Secretary Jardine cannot better the Nation than by telling the people how the farmer can enjoy a standard of living as satisfying as that of his city brother."

FRUIT FREIGHT RATES

A Rochester, N. Y., dispatch to the press to-day states that opposition by fruit growers to freight rates proposed by carriers in the eastern part of the country will be presented at the Interstate Commerce Commission hearing in the Eastern class rate adjustment case in Washington on Wednesday and Thursday. Opposition to the rates, which the growers say will add $600,000 annually to transportation charges, will be presented by the joint council, representing the International Apple Shippers' Association, with executive offices there; the National League of Commission Merchants and the Western Fruit Jobbers' Association.

CANADIAN WHEAT

An Ottawa dispatch to the press to-day states that the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, in a crop report issued yesterday, estimates a yield of 365,000,000 bushels of wheat in Canada this year, 468,948,000 bushels of oats, 86,105,000 of barley, 12,970,000 of rye and 10,480,000 of flax. The total area sown to field crops, exclusive of grain and hay, in Canada for 1925 is estimated at 56,103,660 acres; compared with 55,821,643 acres in 1924.

Section 2.

Grain Price Control Questionnaire

A Chicago dispatch to the press of July 10 states that a committee appointed by President Frank L. Carey of the Chicago Board of Trade sent a questionnaire to its 1,600 members asking their views on means to prevent wide price swings in grain. The questionnaire submits a number of proposals and states the desire of the committee to learn "if measures can be taken that would not interfere with the functions of an open market, and with the great national service such a market renders to producer and consumer as well as to the milling and grain trade." Among the questions submitted were: "Since data gathered by the Grain Futures Administration are not currently available to the exchange officers should provision be made for clearing members to furnish executive officers of the exchange with copies of reports furnished the Grain Futures Administration? Should disclosure be made by the Grain Futures Administration to the executive officers of individual dealings which might result in conditions detrimental to the good name of the association? Should any steps be taken to limit the open speculative interest of individual traders, and if so what would you suggest as such limit in various grains? Would you favor recommendation to the Department of Agriculture that restriction on privilege trading be removed?"

Grain Trade Regulation

An editorial in The Journal of Commerce for July 10 says: "Under the spur of fear of hostile action at Washington the Chicago Board of Trade is taking under careful advisement certain proposed steps to limit if possible the wide fluctuations in grain prices that have of late been the subject of so much adverse comment. It is rather more than doubtful if much real success will attend efforts of this sort. Very much the same restrictions as those now being considered in Chicago have been tried in other exchanges of a broadly similar nature, and despite them all prices have, when conditions were favorable, taken about as wild flights as did wheat prices late last year and early in the current year. Some control of values may, of course, be attained by the methods proposed, but it may be taken for granted that underlying causes of the sort in effect six months or more ago will in the future have similar results, whether or not the amount of change in a single day's session is limited or whether or not some of the other technical rules of the Board of Trade are altered in the manner now suggested. Entirely too much attention is given in this whole matter to the large and sudden break that occurred in wheat futures prices some months ago and entirely too little thought is being given to the equally drastic rise that had previously occurred. When the undoubted and material change in the statistical position of wheat was being used by speculative interests to push wheat prices up beyond all reason, and when the 'lambs' were being enticed into an already inflated market as buyers of wheat, the Department of Agriculture had no complaint to make. The movement, and indeed the whole set of psychological factors surrounding the inflationary movement, was of too much political value at the time for those in authority in Washington to do other than to applaud. The situation became drastically altered, however, when the inevitable day of reckoning arrived and the same elements in the population that with the aid and comfort of the Government had reaped large profits from the upward drive, seeing equally good op-

portunities for gain by pricking the bubble they had blown, began to sell short, both in the grain and in the stock market. The stock market developments were made light of or explained away by Government officials. But the farmer is pretty carefully organized politically and has to be handled with gloves on. The result is a movement against the Chicago Board of Trade, which has caused no little uneasiness in the grain trade and is forcing officials of that organization at least to give the appearance of doing something. There are abuses in the speculative end of grain distribution that ought to be eliminated. In bringing about really better conditions the Government can, and indeed must, play an important part, but not by the means it is employing. First and foremost let it provide the business community with much better information -- facts, not opinions, guesses, surmises, forecasts -- concerning both the productive and consumptive phases of the grain situation; and second, let it carefully refrain from directly or indirectly encouraging numerous sporadic speculators from coming into the market at any time, particularly when prices are and have been for a good while working to excessive levels, whether or not political advantage is apparently to be gained by such action. Having done these things it then may, if it thinks wise, see what can be done in other directions to improve the conditions surrounding the distribution of grain."

Section 4.
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products July 10: Chicago hog prices closed at $14.20 for the top and $13.40 to $14.10 for the bulk. Medium and good beef steers $8.25 to $12.50; butcher cows and heifers $3.85 to $12.25; feeder steers $6 to $8.25; light and medium weight veal calves $11 to $13; fat lambs $13.50 to $15.75; yearlings $9.50 to $13.50; fat ewes $4.50 to $8.25.

Virginia Irish Cobbler potatoes closed at $5.75 to $6.50 per bbl., top of $7.25 on the Chicago carlot market. Kansas and Missouri Cobblers sold at 85 to 90¢ higher on the Chicago carlot market at $3.60 to $3.75 sacked per 100 lbs. Imperial Valley Salmon Tint cantaloupes were quoted in consuming centers at $3 to $4 per standard 45. Arizona Salmon Tints firm at $4 to $4.50 in eastern cities; $2.15 to $2.20 f.o.b. Phoenix. Tom Watson watermelons 22-30 lbs. average from Georgia and Florida ranged $100 to $200 higher in terminal markets at $300 to $600 bulk per car.

Grain prices quoted July 10: No. 1 dark northern Minneapolis $1.50-1/2 to $1.67 1/2; No. 1 red winter Chicago $1.61 1/2; No. 2 red winter St. Louis $1.55 to $1.59; Kansas City $1.54. No. 2 hard winter St. Louis $1.50; Kansas City $1.51 to $1.53; No. 1 hard winter Chicago $1.53 1/2. No. 2 mixed corn Chicago $1.06 1/2; Kansas City $1.03; No. 3 mixed corn Minneapolis $1 to $1.02. No. 2 yellow corn Chicago $1.10 to $1.11; St. Louis $1.10; Kansas City $1.09 1/2 to $1.11. No. 3 yellow corn Chicago $1.09 to $1.10; Minneapolis $1.05 to $1.06. No. 2 white corn Chicago $1.08; Kansas City $1.05. No. 3 white oats Chicago 44 1/4 to 48¢; Minneapolis 41 3/4 to 42 1/4¢; St. Louis 48 to 49¢; Kansas City 49¢.

Closing prices, 92 score butter: New York 42¢; Philadelphia 43¢; Boston 43¢; Chicago 42¢.

Closing prices on Wisconsin primary cheese markets July 9: Twins 21¢; Daisies 21 1/2¢; Double Daisies 21 1/4¢; Young Americas 22 3/8¢; Longhorns 21 3/4¢.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets declined 5 points, closing at 24.24¢ per lb.; New York future contracts were unchanged, closing at 23.55¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

VOL. XVIII, NO. 10 Section 1 July 13, 1925.

PINCHOT PREDICTS ATTACK ON FOREST SERVICE

A Denver dispatch to the press of July 12 states that Governor Pinchot of Pennsylvania, in a formal statement at Denver, July 11, warned the West that an "attempt to dismember the United States Forest Service is now being prepared at Washington."...."I warn the western friends of the Forest Service," he said, "to be ready to meet that attack during the coming session of Congress, as I intend to be ready. The national forests have rendered, are rendering and will render too great a service to the people of the West and of the Nation at large. They are too essential to be tinkered with."

SENATOR ASHURST ON THE FOREST SERVICE

The press to-day says: "That the Forest Service of the Department of Agriculture has become an 'engine of oppression' and that the time has come when Congress should consider whether to mend or abolish the bureau was the assertion July 12 of Senator Ashurst of Arizona. The bureau, he added, never moves except in the wrong direction, and as a result of its policies, covering a quarter of a century, the sheep and cattle industry of Arizona has been, the Senator asserted, practically destroyed. Senator Ashurst is a member of the committee appointed to investigate the forest and public land situation in the Southwest. The hearings in Arizona have just been completed. The Forestry Bureau, Senator Ashurst charged, attempted to defeat the resolution authorizing the investigation. Failing to do that, he said, the bureau sent an official to Arizona to make an investigation. He said it was believed the official went there to forestall the work of the committee.

"Senator Ashurst's statement was considered significant in view of a statement issued in Denver yesterday by Governor Pinchot, a former Chief of the Forest Service. ...."

FARM LOANS

The press to-day states that farmers drew more heavily on the Federal intermediate credit banks for loans in May than in any previous month in the system's history. Direct loans in May, as announced July 12, aggregated $9,415,270, or almost 65 per cent more than in the previous month. While the direct loans were increasing, as they have for several months, loans by the credit banks in the form of rediscounts were materially reduced, the total for May being $4,514,258, just half of the April total. Commissioner Cooper, of the Farm Loan Board, explained that the direct loans represented preparations for marketing, while the rediscounts, for the most part, supplied funds for production. Federal land banks increased their mortgage loans during May by $6,051,729, making the total of these outstanding loans $968,713,291. Joint stock land banks loaned an additional $7,918,678 in May, and they had outstanding June 1 a total of $494,165,230.

Section 2

American-Brazilian Coffee Agreement

A Rio Janeiro dispatch to the press of July 9 states that the United States Coffee Mission July 8 returned to Rio Janeiro after several weeks in the interior of Sao Paulo inspecting coffee plantations. The members announced complete satisfaction over the outcome of their negotiations to obtain a mutual and agreeable marketing system for coffee between Brazil and the United States, and to guarantee plantation owners satisfactory profits, at the same time holding prices low enough to avoid a decrease in consumption of coffee in the United States, which is Brazil's principal customer.

Canning Industry

The growth of the canning industry of the country, says the Trade Record of The National City Bank of New York, has been phenomenal. The number of establishments devoted to that industry has increased about 150% since 1890, the value of the products turned out has grown from 50 million dollars in 1889 to 421 millions in 1923 and will probably be 450 millions in the current year, while the capital invested has advanced from 25 million dollars in 1889 to an estimated 300 millions at present. The material utilized by them has increased from 30 million dollars in 1889 to nearly 300 millions at the present time, and the number of persons employed in the industry at this busy season of the year is, according to a very high authority, over 100,000, though the average number of "wage earners" in the canning industry is set down by the 1923 census at 74,000. The total value of the outturn of the canning factories which devote their attention to fruits, vegetables, and fish was $420,986,000 in the census year 1923 and will probably be $450,000,000 in the current year, since the advance in prices and wages justifies an estimate of a considerable increase in valuation of the outturn since 1923. In point of fact the value of all "canned goods" turned out in the United States in the current year will probably exceed $600,000,000 since the census of 1921 put the value of "all canned goods" produced in the United States in 1921 at $603,000,000, this figure including the canned goods turned out by slaughtering establishments as well as those devoted exclusively to the canning industry.

Cooperative Institute

An editorial in The Philadelphia Ledger for July 9 says: "The first summer session of the American Institute of Cooperation will begin at the University of Pennsylvania on July 20. This is arousing considerable national attention. It is the first attempt in the United States to bring together and treat intensively the history, practices and principles of this movement under the direction of its leaders. The institute will bring together a body of knowledge concerning cooperation in this and other countries. It hopes to help in unifying and clarifying the movement, and will serve as a means of training and developing its leaders and workers. In the four weeks of its sessions, Cabinet officers, scientists, experts, managers of cooperatives and those learned in the new laws of cooperation will lecture to a group of men and women from all parts of the Union. There is now a strong trend away from small associations to consolidated, State and regional associations. The movement at last is making headway....."

Cotton Production

An editorial in The Wall Street Journal for July 10 says: "Can the United States maintain its world supremacy in the production of cotton? For years this question has been asked and answered, yet it constantly recurs. Like Banquo's ghost, it will not down. Over half the crop goes into

foreign markets. In the past three seasons the crops had an aggregate value of $4,800,000,000. Nothing further need be said of the importance of the question. That it is assuming more serious proportions is to be seen in statements made by Dr. Taylor, chief of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, on his return from a trip abroad. 'Higher prices,' he says 'stimulate production in outside areas.' If he had said nothing more, that one sentence should have been enough to set people to thinking. Anyone with the most elementary conception of economics knows that every monopoly contains the seed of its own destruction. By maintaining unduly high prices it invites adventurers to enter the same field of endeavor and, through competition, to force it to divide its market at lower prices. What has been, will be, and cotton is no exception to the rule. Dr. Taylor calls attention to overlooked facts, which show that this rule is already beginning to work in the production of cotton. It is true that the total output in new areas is small, but it is not safe to despise the day of small beginnings. This great country was once too small and weak to command respect. One important fact is that cotton equal to ours can be produced over large areas of other countries. Another thing to be considered is that wherever it is once introduced its cultivation will continue. Whatever cotton is produced in these new areas must seek a market among the same consumers to whom we look for the disposition of our surplus production. When that production becomes a factor in the market our prices must then come down to the level of our competitors. There is no denying the justice of the claim for a generous return for our producers. The question is how are they to get it? If they must sell their surplus in competition with others they must accept the same price as their competitors and even then, perhaps, find no sale for all their product. The issue should be fairly realized and faced now. When a manufacturer finds himself threatened with the loss of a market his hope lies in reducing costs of output so that he can sell cheaper. Few, if any, could survive if the methods of production were so wasteful and the potential per unit output so little utilized as is the case with cotton. The possibilities are great for improved methods that will permit cheaper cotton, and larger profits for the producer. Education and cooperation of the farmers is necessary to bring this about. The banker's class at Lincoln suggests the first step. If copies in every cotton State progress would be made in laying the spectre."

Crop Report

An editorial in The Wall Street Journal for July 11 says: "Taken as a whole the crop report of July 9 is satisfactory. It is true that it confirms private estimates of a disappointing yield of winter wheat, but there are many compensations. The important fact is that the report furnishes grounds to justify the prediction that the agricultural income will be substantial and farmers will come out of this season in better condition than has been their wont since the ending of the inflation period....The department certainly does not exaggerate when it places the increase in acreage at 1.5 per cent. In the surplus States the increase runs from 4 to 15 per cent. The condition for the whole country is above the 10-year average, and in Iowa, which last year suffered severely, it stands at 95. The forecast is for 3,095,000,000 bushels. Corn can not stand complete drought, but if it has a fair amount of moisture, the present condition should result in a crop considerably larger than the forecast. A good corn crop is of the utmost importance because it would mean one of the best feeding seasons for years. There is neither overproduction nor scarcity of hogs. The supply seems about right to insure somewhat higher

prices than the present. The ratio between corn and hog prices should be so favorable as to make feeding profitable in all the corn producing States, which will improve all livestock markets. Unsatisfactory spots can be found in the report. But taken as a whole it shows a well balanced production. If there are no unusual happenings of the weather to mar the promise the agricultural income of 1925 should furnish a solid foundation for business."

Highway Convention — Charles M. Upham, highway engineer of North Carolina, has been appointed manager of the Good Roads Convention and Exhibition to be held in Chicago next January. The convention last January, with delegates from twenty foreign countries, indicated the widespread interest throughout the civilized world in the improvement of facilities for highway transportation. A larger number of foreign delegates is expected at the forthcoming conference and invitations are being sent to the members of the Pan-American Highway Commission, which will hold an international convention in Buenos Aires next October. (Press, July 9.)

Rubber Prices — An editorial in The Journal of Commerce for July 11 says: "After being quoted for a long time at starvation figures,crude rubber has now climbed up beyond $1 a pound, which is regarded by the trade as a scarcity figure. The staple was a good deal higher than that during the war, but that was a temporary phenomenon. High prices brought overproduction and the storage of a great quantity of the crude product. Then followed a sharp reaction, just as in the case of leather and various other fundamental materials. The reaction brought rubber planters close to disaster, and led to the so-called Stevenson rubber restriction plan. Recent advances may be in some measure due to the working of that plan, but they are more largely due to rapid growth of demand and readjustment of production. Rubber is admitted free into the United States, so that the usual discussion of the tariff as a factor in price advance is not appropriate. Instead of it our Government authorities have substituted the equally familiar talk about 'control by foreign trusts and monopolies of materials needed for American manufacture.' They do not talk so much about cooperative cotton growers or our relaxation of the anti-trust laws in the case of all sorts of agricultural associations whose mission it is to raise prices, nor do they have very much to say about the charges we have made from time to time for essential materials which are found chiefly and more or less exclusively in the United States. What they want is a 'reasonable price' for rubber that will enable Americans to go on buying the article economically. Thus far the only plan that they have suggested is that we should go into the business of raising rubber ourselves. The locale which is suggested for such a rubber enterprise is the Philippine Islands.....Would plantation owners in the Philippines furnish this rubber to American tire manufacturers at less than the market price? If not, why should an automobile manufacturer feel differently about paying $1 a pound to a Dutch planter rather than to an American land owner in the Philippines? Would automobile and tire manufacturers run the plantations themselves and so maintain their supply of rubber from private sources? There is nothing to prevent them from so doing at the present time. In fact, they could, with rubber at its present figure, carry on the cultivation of the article and pay going rates of wages in the Philippines, yet earn a profit in addition. To do this with rubber at 35c is another proposition. In such circumstances, tire producers seem to prefer to buy from Java or the Straits Settlements. Whether they would change this attitude and go on producing

their rubber at a loss, if they owned plantations in the Philippines, is still another phase of the problem. These and other reflections are sufficient to expose the hollowness of the whole rubber discussion. Rubber is very high in price to-day, but there is not and never was anything to prevent Americans from buying plantations in Java and the East Indies, raising their rubber and bringing it into the United States free....."

Section 3

Department of Agriculture

American Nurseryman for July says: "The activities in Washington in regard to extension of exclusion regulations to include rose stocks and fruit tree seedlings have an echo in a statement by the French Federation of Horticultural and Nursery Syndicates, of which Rene Barbier, Paris, is the secretary general. The statement declares that the Nurserymen of France for the last ten years have been 'placed in a very bad condition by the prohibitive decision of Dr. Marlatt and his office,' that by reason thereof many plants grown for export had to be destroyed. In the opinion of the French Federation Dr. Marlatt speaks not the truth. The federation is represented as believing that other than reasons for protecting America from injurious insects and plant diseases guided the American decision. The opinion is expressed that Dr. Marlatt would have been right twenty years ago when there was no inspection of exported material in France. It is admitted that the French system of plant inspection ten years ago broke down under war conditions, but it is claimed that an effective system of inspection on French soil is now in operation; that seldom is it necessary now for French inspectors to discard a proposed shipment. In the opinion of the federation the United States was sufficiently protected by Quarantine 37 as it was established prior to 1919 and it suggests an annual conference of the phytopathological services of every country to effect necessary precautionary measures. As to the prohibition by France in 1898 of plants from the United States because of danger by infection from San Jose scale, and the phylloxera -- an exclusion prior to action by the United States and which has continued all these years -- the federation, under date of June 10, 1925, says: 'After repeated demands addressed to the French Government, we may now say that France is disposed to cancel or alter the decree of 1898 if the United States amend their prohibition and admit the importation of plants on the rules established prior to 1918. Our Government would accept the importation of plants after a permit has been delivered and the goods accompanied with a phytopathological certificate delivered by the United States Government.' Which is to say, that only under threat of total exclusion by the United States will France let down the bars which she has maintained since 1898 ! It seems late in the day to make such a concession when American nurserymen have now overcome for the most part the handicap of producing stocks which heretofore have been grown abroad. Almost, if not quite, have the necessary stocks become established in this country. Apparently the day of reckoning for the 1898 exclusion by France is at hand. One wonders how much longer the concession referred to would have been delayed if Washington activity had not intervened. In addition to the maintenance of the longstanding prior prohibition on the part of French growers is the threat of asking the French Government to 'reciprocate by way of close inspection on every American agricultural product' should the American Government presume to adopt French methods ! Only after 'repeated demands addressed to the French Government' the federation 'may now say that France is disposed to cancel or alter the decree of 1898.' It is of course expected that the French Government will establish very close inspection to prevent entry into France

of injurious insects and plant diseases from any source, including the United States of America. It would be a matter of surprise, indeed, if such action were not taken, not only by France but by any other country which values its agriculture. It is not regarded that this is a matter of retaliation; it is regarded as a means of protection to agriculture in regular course and regardless of what any other country may do. That is the attitude of the United States which expects other countries to do likewise."

Section 4
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

For the week ended July 10: Chicago hog prices ranged from 25 to 30¢ lower than a week ago, closing at $14.20 for the top and $13.40 to $14.10 for the bulk. Medium and good beef steers 25 to 75¢ lower at $8.25 to $12.50; butcher cows and heifers steady to 25¢ lower at $3.85 to $12.25; feeder steers steady at $6 to $8.25 and light and medium weight veal calves $1.25 to $2 higher at $11 to $13; fat lambs 50¢ lower at $13.50 to $15.75; yearlings 50 to 75¢ lower at $9.50 to $13.50; fat ewes steady at $4.50 to $8.25.

Virginia Irish Cobbler potatoes advanced $1 to $1.50 over last weeks sales, closing at $5.75 to $6.50 per barrel, top of $7.25 on the Chicago carlot market. Imperial Valley Salmon Tint cantaloupes were quoted about 25¢ to 75¢ lower in consuming centers at $3 to $4 per standard 45. Tom Watson watermelons 22-30 pounds average from Georgia and Florida ranged $100 to $200 higher in terminal markets at $300 to $600 bulk per car. These melons returned the growers at Valdosta, Ga. $115 to $400. Peaches irregular. Georgia Hileys and Belles mostly $2 to $2.50 per six-basket carrier and bushel basket.

Grain market firm after decline. Wheat futures about 3 to 4 cents higher than week ago on more active export business and strength in foreign markets. Movement of new crop wheat increasing with mills absorbing offerings. Corn prices higher with reduced receipts and improved cash demand. Oats higher with wheat and corn.

Butter markets were fairly firm during the week ending July 10, and prices were advanced about a cent. At the close the markets were reported steady, but prices were well maintained. Closing prices on 92 score butter: New York 42¢; Chicago 42¢; Philadelphia 43¢; Boston 43¢.

Hay market slightly easier with heavier receipts. Poor hay harder to move. Department's July report shows lighter hay crop than expected a month ago. Timothy easier. Alfalfa and prairie barely steady. Quoted July 10: No.1 timothy - Boston $25.25; New York $26; Pittsburgh $23; Cincinnati $22; Chicago $23.50; St. Louis $24.50; Kansas City $15; Memphis $23.50. No.1 alfalfa - Kansas City $18.25; Omaha $16.75; Memphis $23.50. No.1 prairie - Kansas City $12; Omaha $12.25; Chicago $17; St. Louis $16; Minneapolis $16.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets advanced 53 points during the week, closing at 24.24¢ per lb. New York July future contracts advanced 53 points, closing at 23.55¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

Industrials and Railroads

Average closing price	July 11,	July 10,	July 11, 1924.
20 Industrials	131.43	131.33	97.38
20 R.R. stocks	98.43	98.48	87.09

(Wall St. Jour., July 13.)

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Vol.XVIII, NO. 11 Section 1 July 14, 1925.

FLOYD HARRISON TO HEAD WAR FINANCE CORPORATION

A Swampscott, Mass., dispatch to the press to-day states that Floyd R. Harrison was appointed yesterday Director of the War Finance Corporation, succeeding Frank W. Mondell, resigned. Mr. Harrison has been assistant to Eugene Meyer,jr., managing director of the corporation, and served as secretary to former Secretaries Meredith and Houston, of the Department of Agriculture.

GRAIN MARKETING COMPANY

An Associated Press dispatch from Chicago to-day states that directors of the Grain Marketing Company, the $26,000,000 farmers' cooperative marketing venture, voted July 13 to continue as an organization, but to return the properties involved to the four vender companies. The cooperative has asked the four old-line grain companies which merged to form the cooperative to give an option on their properties for one year, allowing the Grain Marketing Company to purchase the properties outright within that time.

BAKING INDUSTRY

The New York Times to-day states that the passing of home-made bread from the household table and the substitution of baker's bread is viewed as an economic factor of great importance in a survey of the baking industry made by Dominick & Dominick, members of the New York Stock Exchange. The survey points out that one explanation of the growth of the industry may be found in the process of consolidation which has taken place in recent years and the replacement of the little round-the-corner bakery with large baking corporations. "With a production value of $491,893,000 before the war," the survey states, "the value of the industry's output in 1923, the latest year for which accurate figures are available, totaled $1,122,834,000. Of this the manufacture of bread amounted to 8,429,733,953 pounds, valued at $628,256,785. At present the total bread consumption of the United States is estimated at 20,000,000,000 loaves, New York alone producing 1,900,000,000 loaves....."

FRUIT FREIGHT RATES

Rates on grapes, peaches, apricots, pears, plums and cherries from California to all portions of the United States lying eastward were held to be reasonable and fair July 13 by the Interstate Commerce Commission. Complaints of California fruit growers, in which the California Railroad Commission and various trade organizations in the State joined in seeking a rate reduction, were dismissed. The rates on the deciduous fruits named were alleged in the complaint to be unfair as compared with the rates on apples. From California to the Mississippi Valley and all points East, railroads now make a rate of $1.73 per hundred pounds on types of fruit considered, while to western territory, of which Denver is the central point, the existing rate is $1.62. The California demand was for a rate of $1.44 to apply both to Denver territory and the rest of the United States.

Section 2

Agricultural Conferences at Swampscott

An editorial in The Philadelphia Ledger for July 13 says: "The wise husbandman does not wait until seedtime is upon him before he turns his furrows. He takes advantage of the seasons. In fat years he looks forward to lean years. President Coolidge, farm-bred himself, is profiting by the example of the husbandman. There is much summer plowing going on at Swampscott.....The administration plans to forestall future trouble for itself by shaping a constructive program now. The scouts are coming in from the West to Swampscott. Frank W. Mondell has been out in the High Grass country with his ear to the ground. He has been doing as much listening as talking. Senator Curtis, of Kansas, follows Mondell, of Wyoming.... There will be others along later. Secretary Jardine has been out in Chicago giving the Board of Trade an earful of warnings about wheat and the antics of 'The Pit' raiders. Somewhere in the swarm of farm experts and Congressmen expected at Swampscott will be Secretary Jardine, back from the Grain States and the Cow Country with a picture of the western mind, agricultural and political. The administration idea has been that agriculture is basically sound. Some legislation may be necessary to keep it so, and the shaping of that legislation is now under way....."

Agricultural Press Influence

The New York Times of July 13 reviews at length a pamphlet on industrial journalism by Nelson Antrim Crawford, Director of Information, Department of Agriculture, published by the Department of the Interior. The document was prepared by Mr. Crawford as a contribution to the bulletin on Land Grant College Education when he was head of the department of Industrial Journalism and Printing at the Kansas State Agricultural College, and has recently been issued by the Bureau of Education. The review says in part: "Industrial journalism, meaning journalism dealing primarily with agriculture, engineering, home economics, and other applied sciences, has had its principal growth as a subject of instruction in American land-grant colleges during the last ten years and is now offered in thirty-one institutions of this type. According to Mr. Crawford,.... the work in industrial journalism is directed to two ends: To prepare students to become professional writers on subjects related to the various applied sciences, and editors of periodicals or departments of periodicals dealing with these subjects; to give students of agriculture, engineering and similar fields such practical training in writing as will enable them to contribute to newspapers, technical journals, and other publications readable and accurate articles dealing with their respective vocations. Both ends are of marked importance. The agricultural press alone is a much larger enterprise than most persons imagine. It comprises more than 500 publications, all of them demanding skill in writing knowledge of agriculture. The larger farm journals have circulations approaching a million each. There are approximately 4,500 trade and technical journals, many of which are devoted to fields closely related to engineering, home economics, industrial chemistry, and similar subjects. And the daily and weekly newspapers and the general magazines are giving constantly more attention to agriculture, the industries, and science." The reviews quotes Mr.Crawford as saying:"There is, moreover, a specific service to be rendered by these means. Agriculture has suffered much in the past, and is suffering much to-day, partly because of the inarticulateness of the agricultural population. Courses in agricultural journalism are tending to produce articulateness for the farming industry. Where opposition to instruction in this subject has arisen, there is reason to believe that it has been inspired largely by a desire to prevent the farmer from becoming articulate....."

Cotton Oil Trading

A New Orleans dispatch to the press of July 13 states that a department for trading in cotton oil for future delivery has been approved by the New Orleans Cotton Exchange and will be operated as an adjunct. The futures market operated by the New York Producers' Exchange calls for delivery in barrels only. A large portion of the movement in cotton oil is in tank cars. The New Orleans contract will permit delivery in bulk.

Electricity on the Farm

An editorial in The New York Times of July 5 says:"....Now comes Owen D. Young, famous for his part in solving the economic troubles of Europe, suggesting that labor-saving devices be installed in the farmhouse as well as in the barn. Himself an up-State farmer's boy, he has vivid recollections of his mother's household drudgery. Even his own chores about the place, and his work helping both parents according to need, apparently impressed him deeply with the necessity for system and for mechanical assistance in the farmhouse. With this in mind he has been devoting part of his own time and that of the General Electric Company's staff to a study of the methods by which electricity can be employed on the farm to save labor....."

Farm Population

An editorial in to-day's Washington Post on the department's report on farm population says: "The farm population of the United States continues to decrease. Such is the report of the Department of Agriculture. That it should decrease in proportion to the whole is natural. But it does worse than that--it decreases in actual numbers....Paradoxical as it may seem on the face of it, while the number of farmers decreases, the number of farms increases. In 1910, it was 6,361,502; and in 1920 it was 6,448,343. At the same time the average size of farms increased, so that the total area of agricultural land increased. The more farms, the fewer farmers; the more farm land, the smaller population. That, we say, seems paradoxical; yet it is susceptible of easy explanation. The introduction of machine power of protean kinds into agricultural work has effected a very considerable change. Electric and hydro-electric devices, tractors, motor trucks, internal combustion engines for a variety of uses, have enabled farmers to dispense with much of the help that otherwise would be necessary. The result is that a larger amount of work is being done on a larger agricultural area by fewer persons. That consideration affords some consolation for statistics which would otherwise be disquieting. At the same time it is to be wished that the drift away from the farms might be stopped. At present there are extensive areas of potentially productive but abandoned or neglected farm land; there is a scarcity of farm products in the markets, with consequently high prices to consumers; and there is congestion of labor in the larger cities. That is not a creditable nor a profitable state of affairs."

Freight Rates

An editorial in The Journal of Commerce for July 13 says: "In a recent address the Secretary of Agriculture is reported to have said that 'to restore the purchasing power of the farmer it is highly essential that we give attention to the matter of taxes, freight rates and other items that enter the debit side of the farmer's ledger.' Qualifying these words so far as freight rates are concerned, Mr. Jardine added he realized 'that the cost to the carriers must be fully reckoned with as a factor in rate making, as railroads are indispensable to a profitable agriculture.' The merit that may be accorded this view of the situation depends in large part upon the interpretation that is to be placed upon the words spoken. If the Secretary is implying that taxes now being paid by the

farmer should in substantial part be shifted to other interests, that certain of the expenses of the agricultural producer -- such, for example, as fertilizer costs -- should be lightened as some have suggested by means of subsidy, or that the cost of railroad operations should in much larger degree be placed upon manufactured goods, then his position is not essentially different from that of a good many unsound and biased agrarian thinkers and propagangists. If on the other hand what the Secretary of Agriculture is advocating is a broad program that would include policitsson the part of governmental bodies -- particularly local administrations -- looking toward lighter tax burdens all around, and Congressional action that would tend to work our level of costs and prices down to more advantageous figures, thus directly and indirectly curtailing the necessary outlay of the farmer and at the same time if possible laying a basis for lower freight rates upon agricultural products, his suggestions are to be placed in an entirely different category and incidentally accorded much more favorable judgment. Unfortunately the rather severely compressed press accounts of the address in question do not afford sufficient information to enable the general public to arrive at definite conclusions on this score. One thing, however, is clear. If the Secretary of Agriculture is ready to espouse the cause of general deflation and to make his influence felt in any constructive manner he must give some very careful and fearless thought to some of the most highly favored policies of the administration of which he forms a part. Radical changes will have to be made in our tariff and immigration legislation, to mention only two of a much larger number of broadly similar policies, if a great deal of progress is to be made in the direction of reducing the current costs either of the farmer or the railroads, which form an indispensable adjunct to the agricultural industry in this country. The importance of this confession of faith on the part of Mr. Jardine at this time arises, however, let it be frankly asserted, not from any likelihood that that member of President Coolidge's official family is soon to become an advocate of more reasonable import duties or more sensible immigration laws, but rather from the fact that in view of this very improbability his recent words at least raise the question whether or not the Secretary of Agriculture is not to be listed among the rather numerous group of agrarian reformers in this country who wish to subsidize the farmers by sundry methods. The administration has on more than one occasion shown leanings in this direction and apparently, so far as its Department of Agriculture is concerned at all events, has not greatly changed its mind."

Government Salaries

An editorial in The Washington Post of July 9 says: "Herbert D.Brown, chief of the United States Bureau of Efficiency, has begun an inquiry that should lead to far-reaching and important results to all employees of the Federal Government. He has instituted a comprehensive survey of salaries paid to Government employees as compared with those paid persons in private business establishments. His purpose is to determine whether the United States Government is fair with its employees, and, doubtless, also whether the men and women serving Uncle Sam have the same advantages and opportunities for promotion and advancement that are enjoyed by those outside the government employ. If this survey yields the results expected, Congress will be asked to readjust the scale of salaries of all employees of the Federal Government....It is not only interesting but significant that the chief of the Bureau of Efficiency should make the statement that a superficial investigation has disclosed that the men and women serving the Government as a rule are models of efficiency, superior, perhaps, to those in private employment....."

Road Financing — An editorial in The Wall Street Journal for July 13 says: "That the benevolence of Congress in putting up dollar for dollar for the construction of roads imposes an unfair burden somewhere seems a reasonable assumption....Concrete roads at $30,000 a mile are doubtless desirable. They add enormously to the value of property in the rural districts they serve. Transportation is of the essence of civilization. But there are other expenditures, equally desirable, which the taxpaying individual has to deny himself. It is not a question of whether the farmer could carry on with mere 'accommodation' roads. It is a question whether our extravagant people should be taught to cut their coat according to their cloth. It is true also that the sums collected from the users of motor cars, in licenses and taxes, are far greater than the $75,000,000 which the Federal Government has already devoted to subsidizing new roads, 50 per cent paid for out of the local taxpayer's pocket. Department stores could not carry on business for any great length of time if they only sold people what they need. They, and every advertiser, must persuade people to buy what they want, even if the purchaser can not really afford to indulge himself. The bargain sale, where your wife buys something that you do not need merely because the article is 'cheap', is a better parallel for some counties which have accepted the Government grant for roads, and bonded themselves up to the neck. In many instances they are buying what they can not afford because it is a bargain. Even if they get a road worth twice what they paid for it, they nevertheless can ill afford the price they gave. They must pay not merely upkeep, but interest and sinking fund on their bargain. It looks like poor business, and the taxpayer who puts up the moiety from Washington has a clear grievance."

Wheat Reports — The Journal of Commerce for July 11 says: "One of the most interesting things about the Government wheat report issued on Thursday is the fact that it shows the Department of Agriculture still holding out for a larger crop of winter wheat than conditions as revealed by practically all private advices seem to warrant. True, the difference is not large as compared with the divergence of the earlier Government reports from the facts of the situation, but it is still appreciable. In this connection it is of interest to compare the Government reports and those of The Journal of Commerce for the States actually covered by this newspaper. It will be recalled that these two agencies agreed very closely at the beginning of the season, only to diverge widely at the first of May. Although The Journal of Commerce was forced again to lower its estimates by the first of June the Government could not avoid the necessity of making such drastic reductions in its estimates that its figures practically coincided with those published by this newspaper. That process, however, took some 33,500,000 bushels off the May estimates of yield computed by the Government as indicated in the States of Indiana, Illinois, Kansas, Michigan, Missouri, Nebraska, Ohio, Oklahoma and Pennsylvania. On Thursday the Government report points to a yield of 230,373,000 bushels in these nine States, as compared with a figure of 268,390,000 bushels compiled by The Journal of Commerce. This difference of less than 5 per cent is, of course, not to be considered very large when the fact is borne in mind that all such estimates are at best but averaged opinions or guesses. If, however, what appears to be the general opinion in well informed quarters is an accurate guide, the Government estimate is higher than the facts of the situation warrant. So far as spring wheat is concerned the reports of the Government and those of The Journal of Commerce have never been so wide apart as has been the case in winter wheat. The estimate of condition

compiled by this newspaper at the beginning of June covering eight leading States was 90.2 per cent, while that of the Government was 87.1 per cent. All observers agree that there was substantial improvement during the month of June in the outlook in spring wheat growing districts. There is, however, a normal seasonal decline in condition percentages during this period. The figure of The Journal of Commerce declined less than usual, with the result that indicated yield per acre rose. The Government in the face of the usual drop in condition percentages raised its figure from 87.1 per cent in May to 88.1 per cent in June. The two June figures, 88.0 per cent by The Journal of Commerce and 88.1 per cent by the Government, are for practical purposes identical, although in all these general comparisons the fact is to be borne carefully in mind that the figures published by this newspaper refer only to the nine leading States, while those of the Government include estimates for a number of other and small producing States."

Section 3
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

July 13: Chicago hog prices closed at $14.25 for the top and $13.25 to $14.10 for the bulk. Medium and good beef steers $8.25 to $12.50; butcher cows and heifers $3.85 to $12.50; feeder steers $6 to $8.25; light and medium weight veal calves $10.50 to $12.50; fat lambs $13.75 to $15.90; yearlings $9.50 to $13.50; fat ewes $4.75 to $8.50.

Irish Cobblers from the East Shore of Virginia ranged 25¢ to 50¢ higher than the previous week at $5.50 to $6.25 in eastern cities; $5 to $5.50 f.o.b. Cantaloupe prices lower. Imperial Valley Salmon Tints declined 50¢ to $1 in consuming centers to a range of $2.50 to $3.50 per standard 45. Peach markets weaker. Georgia Elberta peaches 25¢ to 75¢ lower at $2.25 to $3 per bushel basket and six-basket carrier in leading markets, $1.85 to $2.25 f.o.b. Macon. Belles and Hileys were jobbing around $2 to $2.50 per basket or crate. Watermelons irregular. Georgia and South Carolina Tom Watsons 24-30 pound average, ranged $275 to $575 bulk per carsin terminal markets and $175 to $425 f.o.b. Valdosta, Ga.

Closing prices on 92 score butter: New York 42 1/2¢; Chicago 42¢; Philadelphia 43 1/2¢; Boston 43¢.

Grain prices quoted July 13: No.2 red winter, St. Louis $1.63 to $1.64 1/2; Kansas City $1.54 to $1.60. No.2 hard winter, Chicago $1.57 to $1.57 3/4; St. Louis $1.58; Kansas City $1.54 to $1.60. No.2 yellow corn Chicago $1.10 to $1.11; St. Louis $1.12; Kansas City $1.13. No.3 yellow corn, Chicago $1.09 3/4. No.2 white corn, Chicago $1.09 to $1.10 1/2; St. Louis $1.11; Kansas City $1.10. No.3 white oats, Chicago 45 to 48¢; St. Louis 49 1/4¢; Kansas City 48 1/2¢.

Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets advanced 45 points, closing at 24.53¢ per lb. New York July future contracts advanced 55 points, closing at 23.90¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

Industrials and Railroads

Average closing price	July 13,	July 11,	July 12, 1924
20 Industrials	131.71	131.43	97.60
20 R.R. stocks	98.71	98.43	87.15

(Wall St. Jour., July 14.)

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DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol.XVIII, No. 12 Section 1 July 15, 1925.

COOPERATIVE GRAIN MARKETING

A Chicago dispatch to the press to-day says: "Department of Agriculture officials have shown keen interest in recent developments in the field of cooperative grain marketing and will be in closest touch with future attempts to bring important marketing agencies under producer control.....A statement issued yesterday by J. W. Shorthill of Omaha, secretary of the National Farmers' Grain Delaers' Association, says his association is not perturbed by the passing of the Grain Marketing Company. It should have no unwholesome effect on the cooperative movement, he said. When the affairs of the Grain Marketing Company became involved several weeks ago in a manner which turned traders to a discussion of the probabilities of dissolution, representatives of the Department of Agriculture, before whom the situation was placed, declined to encourage steps to prolong the corporate existence of the holding company. Chicago bankers who received first news of the dissolution plan stated they did not at that time seriously consider the suggestion that the failure of the Grain Marketing Company's stock selling campaign left the merger venture amenable to the Federal anti-trust law or numerous regulations of the Grain Futures Administration. Reports that this posture of affairs brought about dissolution were scoffed by parties to the merger. The company's statement Wednesday night announcing dissolution formally approved by the Directors indicated some future attempt might be made to continue the venture on a less extensive scale."

FREIGHT RATE INQUIRY

The press of July 15 states that a closed investigation into the country's railroad freight rate structure, as authorized by the Hoch-Smith resolution passed at the last session of Congress, will be begun by the Interstate Commerce Commission at a public hearing to be opened in Chicago on September 1. At this hearing, which will be directed by Chairman Litchison, testimony will be taken from the representatives of seventy or more carriers in western territory which are seeking authority to increase revenues. Although the Hoch-Smith resolution is of broad scope, it specifically directs that, in view of the alleged depression in agriculture, the commission shall effect with the least practicable delay such lawful changes in the rate structure of the country as will promote the freedom of movement by common carriers of farm products affected by the depression, including livestock, at the lowest possible rates compatible with the maintenance of an adequate transportation service. The commission announced July 14 that it would deal with the western district first, and that it would seek to determine what products of agriculture, including livestock, are affected by depression, also to determine what, if any, reductions may be lawfully effected in the rates or charges on products of agriculture, including livestock.

TEXAS WOOL SALE

A Fort Worth dispatch to the press of July 15 states that the spring crop of wool in Texas will have been disposed of by the end of this week with the exception of a few scattering clips.

Section 2

Australia's Export Organization

The dairy, dried fruit and meat industries of Australia are participating in the recently organized plan, resembling in some ways the Danish system, by which the Government will aid in centralized cooperative effort to develop export trade. This follows upon a somewhat similar method of export control built up in New Zealand covering meats, fruit and dairy produce, and South Africa is now seeking development along the same line. The Australian plan grew largely out of the Imperial Conference of 1923, in which ways of increasing trade within the Empire were discussed. In view of this fact it will doubtless meet with a sympathetic response in Great Britain, and it may reasonably be expected to aid in overcoming Australia's handicap of distance from the British market. One of the main objects is to improve marketing methods and secure a greater degree of standardization of products entering the export trade.(Commerce Monthly, July.)

Canadian Cattle Export

"Canadian cattle have at last come into their own on the British markets and every day sees them ousting the Irish cattle from the premier position held by them for so many years," states H.P.Kennedy, president of the Livestock Producers Co. of Canada, a leading livestock authority, on his return from investigations overseas. "It stands to reason," he says further, "that there is every incentive to western Canadian farmers to raise cattle for export to the Old Country, especially when it is remembered that though Canada is making vast strides in this direction, there is yet plenty of room for further development of the British import trade." The imposition of the United States emergency tariff was at first disastrous to Canada, and in the two years following, holdings of beef cattle in the Dominion declined by nearly a million head. The removal of the British embargo began to stabilize the industry again, and the influence of improved export outlets was felt in 1924, when an increase in cattle holdings was noted for the first time. A less noted factor in the general situation was an increase in domestic consumption with a decline in cattle population Since the removal of the British embargo which had prevailed for so long, the tendency has been for Canadian cattle to move overseas as against flowing into the United States, whither the majority of shipments had previously gone.....(Agricultural and Industrial Progress in Canada, July.)

Cooperative Societies in Britain

The annual congress of the Cooperative Societies of Great Britain has just been held, and the announcement was made that there are now 4,700,000 members of these societies. There are 1,441 societies, all fused together in one vast organization. The "Co-op," as it is called in England, has now $800,000,000 capital. It has 190,000 employees. It has 100 mills and factories, in which it manufactures $120,000,000 worth of goods, mainly flour, soap, margarine and clothing. It has fifty square miles of farm land in England and seventy square miles of tea plantations in India and Ceylon. Its sales last year were 6 per cent higher than in 1923. They rose to $1,250,000,000. The average local society has less than 2,000 members, but there are two in London and Woolwich that have more than 100,000 members each. (Phila. Ledger, July 9.)

Cotton Growing in Morocco

In many respects conditions for the growing of cotton in Morocco resemble those obtaining in America, the main difference lying in the rainfall, according to the report, "Cotton-growing in Morocco," recently issued by the Association Cotonniere Coloniale and transmitted to the Bankers Trust Company of New York by its French information service. This report, which

contains numerous tables showing the time of growth for the cotton and the comparative rainfall in the various North African cotton-growing districts, concludes that the present efforts of individual planters should be seconded by a certain guidance which should constitute a program of action for the extension of cotton-growing in Morocco. At the present time, owing to the slight and ill-distributed rainfall in Morocco planters are mainly concerned with cotton grown under irrigation. Both Egyptian and American cotton are cultivated, and particular attention is paid to long-stapled varieties. The Moroccan climate is suitable for cotton growing in all parts of the Protectorate where the altitude is below 500 metres. Owing to the scattered efforts of planters and the lack of statistics it is difficult to give an accurate estimate of the quantities produced but in 1924 there were in the Berkana district 35 plantations with an average of 100 to 105 hectares. The total crop amounted to 32,500 kilogrammes. Attempts on a small scale have also been made in Northwestern Morocco, on the borders of Sebow. The yield amounted to 2,300 kilogrammes of raw cotton, or 760 kilogrammes of ginned cotton per hectare. Still farther north, at Arbaou, trials with the American variety "King's Improved" gave a yield of 300 to 400 kilogrammes of ginned cotton per hectare. Attempts at cotton growing have also been made in the Fez Plain. Good results as regards quality of fibre have been obtained in Chaouta, in Central Morocco. The most important cotton-growing operations have been carried on in the Marakesh region.

Cotton Production

The Journal of Commerce for July 14 says: "Reports from Washington are to the effect that the Department of Agriculture is cooperating with State authorities in North Carolina to the end that farmers be taught to grow a better quality of cotton in that State by the application of modern methods of scientific agriculture, and with a view to establishing marketing machinery through which the growers may be enabled conveniently to obtain proper differentials for the higher grade staple over the inferior material. At the present moment, as is well known, the rank and file of cotton planters not only in North Carolina but generally throughout the belt are not as careful or as progressive in the matter of improving the quality of their product as they ought to be. This state of affairs is due in part to lack of knowledge of and faith in what is known as scientific agriculture and in part to the fact that proper inducements have not been regularly provided in the form of better prices for better cotton. This is a phase of southern agriculture that has long been more or less neglected. If the Department of Agriculture and the authorities of the States most concerned are now preparing to go into this matter intelligently and vigorously good results ought to be obtained."

Farmer Aid

An editorial in Hoard's Dairyman for July 3 says: "It might be gathered from what has been said that a considerable number of farmers desire the Government to become active in cooperation. Some, of course, believe the Government should organize and direct cooperative institutions. It is our opinion this number is not large and not among the men who have given the subject careful consideration. Mr. G. W. Slocum, president of the Dairymen's League, Incorporated, in his annual address touched upon this question, and it is his belief that if a composite view of the two and one-half millions of farmers who belong to cooperative institutions could be heard, they would say, 'Give agriculture an equal chance with other industries. Help us to bring understanding to the minds of the public regarding the purpose of our great cooperative marketing association. Give us the same protection that you give other businesses--help us to study our

problems by cooperating with us in research work. We do not want financial aid and we do not want any special privileges.' We feel confident ... Mr. Slocum has not overestimated what the leading farmers of this country demand. They have too much pride to request the Government to do more for them than for any other class of citizens. Farming is a job that develops initiative and independence, and those engaged in it do not desire to become wards of the Government. They ask for nothing more than an equal opportunity with all other industries."

Farmer Financing

An editorial in The Journal of Commerce for July 14 says: "According to Washington accounts farmers are now borrowing more heavily at Intermediate Credit banks than ever before, and the loans of these institutions are rapidly growing. The Intermediate Credit banks were established under the Agricultural Credits act of 1923, and Secretary Mellon reported shortly after their organization that it was very doubtful what their position in American finance could be. Most observers have continued to feel this same element of doubt, although a good many have already come to the conclusion that the credit banks are pretty certain to be injurious. Be this as it may, the banks have shown an increasing volume of trade as the months have passed by and have apparently been determined to get the business and keep it. They are entirely Government owned, differing in this respect both from Reserve banks and from Federal Farm Land banks. Of course, the real question with them is not how much they lend, but how safely and wisely is their lending done. Nobody doubts that they can lend money if they make the terms sufficiently attractive. When shall we have a complete report on these banks, the kind of business they are doing and its effect on the credit situation?"

Farmer Interest Rates

A Milwaukee dispatch to the press of July 6 states that despite the ease in the money markets of the world and the superabundance of funds, the farmers in most of the upper counties of Wisconsin are paying high prices steadily for their loans. There is no prospect of reducing this rate apparently. "Most of the farmers in upper Wisconsin and similarly situated farmers in adjoining States are paying 8 per cent on the bank loans," declared H. D. Baker, banker at St. Croix Falls, who is president of four banks in Polk and Burnett Counties. "The problem is essentially that of the creditor farmer. Some of our farmers are well to do and some are in the pioneering stage, struggling to clear their farms and pay for their land. The creditor farmers furnish nearly all of our deposits. They are paid 4 per cent on their deposits. These farmers are being solicited to buy bonds every day by canvassers who come from the Twin Cities and other large towns. The creditor farmers have most of the surplus money. They maintain large deposits as a rule. They furnish the money that we lend to the poor debtor farmer. He is the real producer. He is struggling to pay his debts. He deserves lower rates, but he can not get them because the creditor farmer holds the bag. He must have his return on his funds at the expense of the debtor farmer. The banker, on the other hand, must have the 8 per cent to give him the proper margin of profits."

Freight Rates

An editorial in The Northwestern Miller for July 8 says: "Secretary of Agriculture Jardine has in the first few weeks of his service overwhelmingly convinced the country of his exceptional fitness for what has been described as the most difficult position in the Cabinet....He has also demonstrated his soundness in interpreting the needs of the farmer and in

his complete rejection of the fancy curealls advanced by political agriculturists. In view of these facts, it may seem captious to suggest that Secretary Jardine is not so sound when he comes to the proposal that freigh rates should be called into service to aid in solving the farmer's transient troubles. In a recent article he said: 'One specific way in which cooperation can be given to the farmer to-day is in connection with the freight rate problem....I realize that the cost to carriers must be fully reckoned with as a factor in rate making, but I am convinced that it is equally important to consider the value of the service to the shipper. It is not my idea that freight rates should be continually changed to meet fluctuations in market prices. What we must do is iron out present inequalities in the freight rate structure and work out a policy whereby readjustments can be made in the levels of freight rates to meet the changes that occur in economic conditions over considerable periods of time.' Clearly the last two sentences are sophistry. 'Ironing out present inequalities in the freight rate structure' to adjust them to present production and price conditions can only mean that such 'ironing out' will have to be repeated when these conditions change. This is actually calling upon freight rates to supply the requisite elasticity to make them a buffer for variations in crop production and values. The principle of 'continual change' will thereby be recognized, however much it may be denied. Freight rates represent a definite charge for a definite service. They must be high enough to pay the cost of operation, interest on employed capital and provision for expansion in service as commerce requires it. They can not, under any circumstances, if railroads are to serve their purpose, be subject to variation in response to extraneous influences of crop shortage or surplus, or low or high prices for the products of farms. It would be equally sound to propose that, when a crop is short, carriers should have the right to advance rates so that their earnings would not be affected by the reduced tonnage."

Grain Elevators The Price Current-Grain Reporter for July 8 says: "The great grain elevator system of the United States, with thousands of country plants and hundreds of terminal, transfer and export elevators, has during the past several months again proven its importance in conserving grain values. The observance of grain receipts in Chicago, for instance, from day to day, which are very similar no doubt to the receipts in most other large markets showed during January and thereafter an unusually large tonnage of low-grade corn. It is freely stated but not always accepted as truthful, that the large grain markets are the dumping ground for country shippers of poor country grain. It is right that the large markets with their drying, cleaning and processing machinery should receive such off grades, but these terminals are not always given proper credit for doing so. In Chicago, for instance, when off grades seemed to overwhelm the market, there has never been a time when the large elevator interests did not take at considerable sacrifice in time and attention, if not actually in money, all of the receipts from week to week. The grain business to-day is more than merchandising trade, being to a very large extent a manufacturing business, including the above process and also the blending of grain of low quality which may be off-grade for any of many reasons, with grain of better quality and producing either a full grade or grain that is sufficiently acceptable to be sold in commercial channels."

Section 3

MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products July 14: Chicago hog prices closed at $14.30 for the top, bulk of sales $13.30 to $14.20; medium and good beef steers $8.25 to $13.10; butcher cows and heifers $3.85 to $9.75; feeder steers $5.75 to $8.25; light and medium weight veal calves $10.50 to $12.75; fat lambs $14 to $16; yearlings $10 to $13.75; fat ewes $5 to $9.

Virginia Irish Cobbler potatoes ranged mostly $5.25 to $6.25 per barrel, low as $4 to $4.75 in New York. Georgia Elberta peaches $2.25 to $3 per six basket carrier and bushel basket in city markets; $1.75 to $2 f.o.b. Macon. California Salmon Tint cantalopes mostly $2.50 to $3.25 per standard 45. Delaware and Maryland Transparent apples $1.50 to $2 per bushel basket in eastern cities. Georgia and South Carolina Tom Watson watermelons, 22-30 pound average, $325 to $550 bulk per car in leading markets; growers at Valdosta, Ga. receiving $225 to $350 for 24-28 pound melons.

Grain prices quoted July 14, 1925: No.1 dark northern, Minneapolis $1.62 to $1.79. No.2 red winter, Chicago $1.56 1/2; St.Louis $1.65; Kansas City $1.60 to $1.62. No.1 hard winter, Chicago $1.59 1/2 to $1.61; St. Louis $1.60; Kansas City $1.54 to $1.64. No.2 mixed corn, Chicago $1.11; Kansas City $1.08. No.3 mixed corn Minneapolis $1.03 1/4 to $1.05 1/4. No.2 yellow corn, Chicago $1.11 1/2 to $1.12 1/4; St. Louis $1.12 1/2; Kansas City $1.14 1/2. No.3 yellow corn, Chicago $1.10 3/4 to $1.11 1/2; Minneapolis $1.09 1/4 to $1.10 1/4. No.2 white corn, Chicago $1.10; St. Louis $1.11; Kansas City $1.08 to $1.10. No.3 white oats, Chicago 45 1/4 to 48¢; Minneapolis 43 1/2 to 44¢; St. Louis 49¢; Kansas City 49 1/2¢.

Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets advanced 36 points, closing at 24.90¢ per lb. New York July future contracts advanced 32 points, closing at 24.20¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

Industrials and Railroads

Average closing price	July 14,	July 13,	July 14, 1924
20 Industrials	132.95	131.71	97.50
20 R.R. stocks	99.15	98.71	87.51

(Wall St. Jour., July 15.)

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DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol.XVIII, No. 13 Section 1 July 16, 1925.

HOOVER ON ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

In a review of the economic conditions in the United States, which appeared July 15 as a foreword of the Commerce Year Book of the Department of Commerce for 1924, Secretary Hoover expressed the opinion that the general situation was very favorable and that the American people have little cause for complaint regarding the economic affairs. Mr. Hoover emphasized the fact that the agricultural situation showed a marked improvement in 1924 and that industrial activity was only slightly less than in 1923, when new records were established. Foreign commerce was in a much more favorable condition than in 1923, he said, and more stable conditions were being enjoyed in Europe. American labor, the Secretary added, was enjoying the benefit of greatly increased efficiency in the industries and was receiving the highest real wages in the history of the country.

AUSTRALIAN APPLE SHIPMENT

An Associated Press dispatch from New York to-day states that twelve cases of Australian apples, believed by officials of the State Market Department to be the first ever shipped to this country from Australia, were distributed to retailers July 15 after their arrival in the steamship Eastern Planet. Arrival of the fruit in fair condition, despite the fact that they were not shipped under regular refrigeration protection, convinced Sir James Elder, Australian Commissioner in the United States, that apples from this country could be successfully shipped to United States markets. The present shipment consisted of Jonathan and Roman Beauty varieties. They were grown in the province of Victoria, Southern Australia.

POTATO CROP

A Chicago dispatch to the press to-day says: "Unprofitable prices for most of the 1924 potato crop induced growers to cut the main crop acreage this spring, and the prospective yield has been further slashed by frost and dry weather, according to the Sears-Roebuck Agricultural Foundation Index for July. Prices probably will average higher and the total income for the present crop should exceed the receipts of last year, when prices frequently were below cost of production."

BUTTER EXPORT

A Minneapolis dispatch to the press of July 16 states that the Minnesota Cooperative Creameries Association, owned and managed by farmers is steadily expanding its export business in butter. This week the management announced a contract for 300,000 pounds. The association now ships both to Europe and South America. Some months ago it closed a contract to supply part of the butter used in the American Navy.

Section 2

Automotive Power

In an editorial on motor cars in foreign trade, The Wall Street Journal for July 14 says:"....Our domestic market, the foundation stone of the export movement, is marvelous. In the past two years, 6,800,000 passenger cars and 735,000 motor trucks have been turned out in the United States alone. Apparently, the saturation point in the domestic market is as far away as it seemed to be five years ago. The call for motor trucks continues, while the use of the tractor wherever conditions warrant its use has only begun. That machine is now fully as perfect as a passenger automobile and its performance on the farms of the West is truly wonderful. Farmers are dispensing with horses and putting in these machines, because, as they say, 'they never tire.'"

Cotton Crop

An editorial in The Wall Street Journal for July 15 says:"...The official report of July 2 forecast a crop of 14,399,000 bales. Such a crop would be to the cotton industry what a full meal would be to a starving man. But 39.6 per cent of the total acreage is in Texas, and to do its share that State must raise about 5,400,000 bales. No wonder the cotton market vibrates on weather news from Texas. Taking official reports of precipitation at cotton region stations as authority the situation is becoming tense. That the winter rainfall was only one-third normal is well known....As the story is being continued in the daily Weather Bureau reports they must make for a nervous market. The central group of Weather Bureau stations include the largest producing section of the State, known as the black belt. Estimates of the size of the cotton crop at this time are nothing but guesses, but it is no guesswork to look at the Weather Bureau reports and say that the next official estimate must show a reduced promise of cotton in Texas....."

Flax Growing in Ontario

An editorial in Ontario Farmer for July 11 says: "During the war flax growing in Ontario developed by leaps and bounds, but in the slump which followed, when the market for flax fibre dropped nearly out of sight, the industry was reduced to very negligible proportions. But within the past two years the fibre market has recovered to the point where flax growing can again be undertaken with a fair margin of profit. The average price last year for scutched fibre was 26 cents per pound, and the average yield 300 pounds per acre. Besides this there was an average yield of 150 pounds of tow per acre, which sold at 10 cents per pound, and from 10 to 12 bushels of seed per acre, which sold at $2.25 per bushel. The average gross returns per acre were, therefore, in the neighborhood of $115, while the cost of seed, land rental, and the labor involved amounted to approximately $75 per acre--leaving $40 per acre net to the grower. While certain areas of British Columbia and Nova Scotia are probably the most suitable districts in Canada for the growing of flax, it does well also in many parts of Southern Ontario. Up to the present, Canadian flax fibre has not been utilized for the manufacture of the finer linens, but it is in good demand for the manufacture of linen thread. The spinning mills demand it in the scutched state, before reaching which it must pass through the processes of de-seeding, retting, breaking, and scutching.... There is a distinct possibility, however, for growers of small acreages to form cooperative associations for the purchase of the necessary machinery and the necessary building for breaking and scutching operations....The chief drawback in flax fibre production in Ontario is the amount of labor required. Flax for fibre has to be pulled by hand, because the length of

the stem is naturally so short that to cut with a binder would waste several inches of each plant stem, and would also mean too much short fibre, which is objectionable to the trade. Expert flax pullers are usually hard to find in sufficient number to handle a large acreage. However, another fibre plant (Hemp) is being tried out, and if it is found that it can be grown successfully, it can be handled entirely by machinery. The Dominion Experimental Farms are trying out this plant in the Maritimes, Quebec, Ontario, and British Columbia, and so far have had fairly good success with it, though they are not yet ready to advocate its general use."

Florida Citrus Fruit

Manufacturers Record for July 9 says: "V.H.Power, second vice-president of the Manufacturers Record, has recently had occasion to come into touch with a great deal of the work that is being done in the establishment of orange juice booths or stores in various parts of the country in the interest of California oranges. Based on the things he has learned in this connection, he has recently written on several occasions to the Florida Citrus Fruit Exchange, giving some information on the subject. In his letter of June 20 to the advertising manager of the Citrus Fruit Exchange he stated the case so clearly that we are giving his letter for the benefit of our many Florida readers and others interested: 'The recent examination of the Florida orange juice question and the correspondence about it with you has developed the following suggestions: That the exchange should have booths in the 1926 Southern Exposition, to be held in the Grand Central Palace, New York, one on each floor; that the juice from the Florida orange at those booths could be dispensed without cost to all visitors who come for it; that the combination of grapefruit and orange juice might also be a feature of the booth; that one orange and one grapefruit should be given to each caller;....' The more I study the Florida juice situation the firmer is my conviction that the California orange has already made a long advance over the Florida orange, and a tremendous effort, well and scientifically directed, is necessary to get the Florida orange properly appraised and considered for juice purposes. It will take several years of unrelenting and vigorous work to do it. It means, first, in my opinion, a complete laboratory for experimental work to find the right orange both as to juice and to rind element, and then start the growth of the orange that the laboratory may develop for this purpose....I am convinced there is a tremendous future in this country for orange juice. ..."

Grain Marketing

An editorial in The Journal of Commerce for July 15 says: "Dispatches from Chicago are to the effect that the agrarian leaders who have been in the forefront of the movement to acquire in the name of the farmers a large part of the grain distributing equipment and business of this country are not yet convinced that their clients are not interested in the project in question and accordingly are preparing to request an extension of time during which purchase may be made. The whole program, they say, was too large a one to bring fully into being in the short course of a year's time. In another twelve months the agricultural producers could, they apparently think, be brought to 'understand and appreciate' what is being done for them. This rather optimistic view of the situation may or may not be warranted by the facts. As to that the future alone can tell with certainty. If, however, the rank and file of the farmers of this country have not yet learned by a year's sad experience that the grain marketing business in this country is to-day no gold mine, that its profit margins are exceedingly narrow and that the attending risks are very great

and apparently growing greater, then they are not the hardheaded individuals they are commonly reputed to be. Agriculturists will, if they are wise, move with caution in taking over the properties that for a brief space of time have formed what is known as the Grain Marketing Company. A decision to do anything of the sort should be reached, if reached at all, only after most painstaking study of the whole situation."

Highway Tree Planting

An editorial in The Washington Post for July 14 says: "The New Jersey State highway commission, which is constructing and improving a vast network of roads all over that State, has just adopted a rule which is heartily to be commended for imitation by road-builders everywhere. That is, that for every shade tree by the roadside which it is compelled to destroy, it will set out two new ones. This will check a great evil, and effect considerable positive good. In the last few years thousands of fine shade trees have been destroyed along the roads of that State, some by the State and some by local authorities. Roads have been improved, so far as the pavement is concerned. But they have been damaged, so far as comfort and appearance are concerned, by being denuded of trees. In some cases this was inevitable, where it was necessary for safety or convenience to widen the roads, or to eliminate dangerous curves. In others, probably in half the cases, it was entirely needless and wanton. Under the new rule it is obvious that greater care and discrimination will be exercised, so as to destroy no trees which can possibly be preserved. When any must be removed, they will be doubly replaced, so that roads will actually have more trees than before. It would be well if, in addition to a mere rule of the commission, the State should enact this into law, and make it compulsory not only upon the State commission but also upon all county and municipal authorities. In that way wanton destruction of trees would be stopped, and the highways would retain the charm and the comfort of shade."

Illinois Insect Losses

Illinois vegetable growers pay an annual insect tax of almost $4,000,000, according to a circular which C. C. Compton, assistant entomologist of the Illinois State Natural History Survey, has prepared in cooperation with the horticultural department of the College of Agriculture at the University of Illinois. The latest figures place the value of the State vegetable crop at nearly $20,000,000 and an average of 30 per cent of this is destroyed by insects. Last year the onion worm caused a loss of nearly $5,000,000 in Cook County's onion set crop. Other million-dollar crops that suffer an annual loss of from 10 to 50 per cent by insect attack are tomatoes, cucumbers, cabbage and sweet corn. Ten insects alone cause an annual loss of more than $3,500,000, the circular states. These insects are listed as the onion worm, onion thrip, potato leaf hopper, cabbage worm, cabbage maggot, corn ear worm, striped cucumber beetle, asparagus beetle, flea beetle and plant bug. (Press, July 14.)

Livestock Production

Glenn Griswold, Chicago correspondent of the Philadelphia Ledger, says in the July 13 issue: "The address of M. A. Traylor before the Montana bankers' convention revives the recollection that Mr. Traylor is one of the foremost authorities in the country on livestock financing, a fact that has been rather generally forgotten since he became president of the First National and the First Trust and Savings Banks in Chicago.....Mr. Traylor in his address accomplished two things worth while in Montana; he points out clearly the ills of the livestock business, and particularly of the cattle business; and he indicates the way to profits and prosperity in cattle

raising in the future....After demonstrating that the principal trouble with the cattle business is an undeniable oversupply and a serious curtailment in export demand, Mr Traylor says: 'First of all, it will never again be profitable to operate large herds of mediocre stuff. Most of the grazing lands in the country, whether rightly or not, are now held at too high figures to ever permit successful operation after the old fashion, and the prohibitive cost of doing business in the old way, with the incident death loss and other wastage suffered by the big operator, are too tremendous to permit a continuation of production on this scale....I may be wrong, but it has always seemed economically unsound to me continually to stock northern pastures with southern-bred cattle. The hazard involved in transportation, acclimatization and the long period necessary thereafter to prepare for market beef after this fashion is in my opinion too great to warrant its continuation.'"

Section 3
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

July 15: Virginia Irish Cobbler potatoes closed the week at a range of $5 to $6.25 per barrel in eastern markets; $5.25 to $5.50 f.o.b. East Shore points. Cantaloupes weakened slightly in midwestern cities and declined 75¢ to $1.50 in the East. Delaware and Maryland Transparent apples 75¢ to $1.50 lower at $1 to $1.75 per bushel. Georgia and South Carolina Tom Watson watermelons, 22-30 pound average sold at $325 to $550 bulk per car in terminal markets; $250 to $425 on an f.o.b. usual terms basis at Valdosta, Ga. Georgia Elberta peaches mostly $2.25 to $2.75 per bushel basket and six basket carrier in consuming centers; $1.65 to $2 f.o.b. Macon.

Chicago hog prices closed at $14.50 for the top and $13.40 to $14.30 for the bulk. Medium and good beef steers $8.25 to $13.25; butcher cows and heifers $4 to $12.50; feeder steers $5.75 to $8.25; fat lambs $13.50 to $15.50; yearlings $10 to $13.75; fat ewes $5 to $9.

Grain prices quoted July 15, 1925: No.1 dark northern Minneapolis $1.59 1/2 to $1.76 1/2. No.2 red winter, Chicago $1.63; St. Louis $1.63 to $1.65; Kansas City $1.62 to $1.64. No.2 hard winter, St. Louis $1.60 to $1.61; Kansas City $1.54 to $1.65; No.2 mixed corn, Chicago $1.08 1/2; Kansas City $1.07. No.2 yellow corn, Chicago $1.11 to $1.12 1/4; St.Louis $1.12 1/2; Kansas City $1.13 to $1.14. No.3 yellow corn, Chicago $1.10 to $1.11; No.2 white corn, Chicago $1.10; Kansas City $1.07 1/2. No.3 white oats, Chicago 45 to 47¢; St. Louis 47 3/4; No.2 white oats, Kansas City 49¢.

Closing prices on 92 score butter: New York 43¢; Chicago 42 1/2¢; Philadelphia 44¢; Boston 43 1/2¢.

Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets declined 45 points, closing at 24.45¢ per lb. New York July future contracts declined 34 points, closing at 23.88¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

Industrials and Railroads

Average closing price	July 15,	July 14,	July 15, 1924
20 Industrials	133.40	132.95	97.40
20 R. R. stocks	99.16	99.15	87.68

(Wall St. Jour., July 16.)

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DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol.XVIII, No. 14 Section 1 July 17, 1925.

COTTON RATES HELD UNFAIR

Freight rates on cotton from Southwestern States to Texas gulf ports were held to be unfair July 16 by the Interstate Commerce Commission on the ground that they discriminate between warehouses and compressing plants located on the waterfronts and establishments located further inland. Railroads were ordered to revise their schedules on or before October 12 to correct the situation. The commission also ruled the export rates on cotton to the Texas ports should be made higher than domestic rates by an amount sufficient on every shipment to pay the wharfage charge incurred by the export shipment. (Press, July 17.)

NEW YORK STATE ICE CREAM MERGER

Completion of an $8,000,000 merger of ice cream companies was announced yesterday in the formation of the General Ice Cream Corporation, of which E. B. Lewis, president of the J. M. Horton Ice Cream Company of New York City, is a member of the Executive Committee and one of the principal stockholders. The new company will take over plants in many parts of New York State and will be the largest ice cream company operating in the State outside of New York City. The new corporation will serve 500 cities and towns with an estimated population of 3,750,000. Interests behind the consolidation said that the merger will result in a well-balanced and co-ordinated business, controlling its own supply of milk products. Besides ice cream, the corporation will manufacture and sell condensed milk and operate cold storage and milk gathering and distributing plants. (Press, July 17.)

RUSSIAN TRADE

Secretary Hoover gave the Associated Press yesterday the following outline of trade relations with Russia: "Our exports to and imports from Russia are proceeding with no more difficulties than those of any other country. There is no prohibition or impediment by the American Government. It must not be overlooked that Russia has a Communist Government; that the Government is the sole importer and exporter of all commodities; that trading must be carried on with the Government itself. The Soviet Government has trade representatives in the United States located in New York. The total of Russian trade is about one-quarter or one-third of the pre-war trade. Of this the United States furnishes about one-quarter of the total, a larger proportion than before the war."

AMERICA FIRST IN LIBRARY METHODS

America leads in library methods, according to data presented in the first annual report of the Board of Education for Librarianship of the American Library Association. The report states further that many foreign students have come and are coming to this country for professional library training. Forty-two institutions in sixteen countries have been represented in the enrollment of twelve American library schools since their establishment. Many of the foreign students have university preparation, often with baccalaureate and higher degrees. (Press, July 17.)

Section 2

Bird Study To Be Made

A study of bird life from South Dakota to Mexico City, and back along the western coast of Mexico and the United States to Canada, will be made this summer by Prof. H. H. Nininger, head of the biology department of McPherson College, Kansas. Professor Nininger will make the trip under the auspices of the National Ornithology Society and it is expected to result in the most important discoveries in the interests of ornithology. The party will start from western South Dakota and travel in a house-car built especially for the purpose. Care will be taken to keep well ahead of cold weather, so that the birds can be studied in advance of the migratory period for the American species. Crossing the Rio Grande, the party will continue south, gathering data on the species both rare and common to Mexico. While there, the migratory birds of the northland, which will have sought winter quarters, will be closely observed. From the City of Mexico Prof. Nininger will move northward, traveling along the western coast of Mexico and the United States until the Canadian border is reached. Colleges and universities along the route in both countries have asked Professor Nininger for his disclosures. (Press, July 16.)

Crop Reports

An editorial in The Wall Street Journal for July 16 says: "Official crop estimates, as well as some private ones, show that the farms will produce all that is required this year. There is no occasion to be anxious about the food supply. At the same time there will be no large surplus of any farm product. With production nicely adjusted to consumption, reasonable prices should be the rule. The net result should be that when this crop year ends on June 30, 1926, farmers should be in better financial condition than they have for some years. Full influence of last season's era of good prices was not felt all at once, but was spread over the entire year. The statements of the banks throughout the agricultural regions now show the effects. Deposits have increased, old loans have been taken up and a liquid condition prevails. A good crop season this year should complete the liquidation, leaving at the same time a larger margin for expenditures. Farmers can be expected to buy prudently, but their total purchases will be heavy. In the corn belt, above all other sections, there is reason for rejoicing. Instead of a calamity yield, as of last year, there is a fair prospect of a crop exceeding the record. A good corn crop at a reasonable price means that it will be largely marketed through the livestock route. Hog prices are now almost twice what they were a year ago, cattle 25 per cent more and sheep 50 per cent above last year. Livestock markets like these, with good feed crops, mean that farmers have an unusual opportunity. Those who raise wheat have the prospect of a good price and, in the case of the Northwest, a large yield. Aside from winter wheat, all food and feed crops show up well at this time. Cotton is an uncertainty. Texas is a doubtful proposition at this time. But last year that State had a very large crop from which it gleaned a gratifying return. Some other States have very good prospects at this time. The world condition is such that it could absorb a crop as large as the outside estimates of the present one and pay a fair price for it. So, for the present, the cotton producer must be included among those with a good outlook for the coming season. Their greatest weakness may be found in a lack of feed crops, but that is the usual penalty paid for one-crop farming....."

Grain Marketing Company

In an editorial on the passing of the Grain Marketing Company, Commerce and Finance for July 15 says:"....The pretentiousness of the venture was not fully realized in the East. Not only was it the largest grain marketing company and the largest cooperative company ever organized--

it was reported to have the indorsement of the President himself and his Cabinet leaders. But the farmer would have none of it. Last week the company was dissolved, having failed by a wide margin to sell enough stock to raise the $4,000,000 necessary to make the first payment on the properties. No loss is involved in the dissolution. The only failure is the failure of the idea. The company's business reverts to its constituent concerns, the Armour Grain Co., Rosenbaum Bros., and the Davis-Noland-Merrill Grain Co., of Kansas City, which have resumed business under their own names. The fourth company, the Rosenbaum Grain Corporation, will do the same when its finances are in shape. The failure of the enterprise was due to several factors. The farmers were suspicious of the originators of the idea and skeptical of their purpose. They were willing to assail the 'extortionate profits' of the middlemen but when it came to putting their own hard cash into an enterprise, assuming the middlemen's risks and uncertainties, the horse appeared a different color. Their hard-headed caution reasserted itself and those who had money preferred to spend it in California or Florida or in buying securities that offered more hope of wealth, such as oil stocks. The grain merchants endeavored to launch the company under the proper auspices by enlisting Gray Silver, one of the most prominent of farm leaders, as their president, and J.W.Coverdale, another leader, as secretary. An impressive directorate including O.E.Bradfute, president of the American Farm Bureau Federation, and seven others prominent in farmers' organizations was organized. This did not deter other farm leaders from attacking the plan, however. It was assailed from the day it was announced. Carl Williams, president of the National Council of Farmers' Cooperative Marketing Association, promptly said that 'it has all the earmarks of a situation in which unprofitable private elevator properties may be disposed of at a profit.' This was the keynote of the farmers' reception. It makes no difference whether the suspicion was justified or not. It existed and it proved all important... In States where its sale was permitted many of the farmers' banks advised against its purchase.....C.J.Osborne, president of the Nebraska Farmers' Union, made the sound observation that 'true cooperation starts at the bottom in the purchase of small elevators by the farmer. We still have much to learn at the bottom.' He asserted that it was suicidal for the farmers to dream of entering into such a gigantic plan and questioned whether the grain concerns were not taking advantage of the cooperative marketing laws to evade the anti-trust laws."

Grain Trading An editorial entitled "Wheat-Pit Reform," in The Country Gentleman for July 18, says: "The Government has advised the wheat pit to change its ways of doing business. Secretary of Agriculture Jardine frankly told the officers of the Board of Trade they must clean their own house and adopt rules to prevent future market manipulation or Congress would do it for them.....Whatever reforms are made, some means should certainly be provided whereby the price of wheat will respond promptly to world conditions of supply and demand. The futures market does this and it was worth millions to farmers last summer and fall. Conditions are ripe again this year for wild days in the wheat pit. From now until the first of September the Canadian crop will fix wheat prices. If the weather should be too dry when the wheat is filling, if the wheat should be scorched by hot winds, or if a norther should bring down an August frost the price of wheat would zoom upward like a skyrocket. The farmers need a market that will respond instantly to such conditions as these. In short they need the speculative

market--but one safeguarded against manipulation. The danger of intrusting regulation of the markets to Congress is that it is likely to assume that all price changes are due to manipulation. This is not true.....In amy consideration of the wheat pit one must not forget that a bull market can not start until there is a world shortage of wheat; also that no bear raid will amount to anything until the price is higher than the market justifies. Speculation hastens and intensifies conditions; it does not create them. This is a truism not generally known. That is why we urge the Board of Trade to inaugurate its own reforms. The wheat pit properly operated is too valuable a piece of marketing machinery to be tinkered and repaired by Congress; it would be like taking a watch to a kindergarten school for repairing."

Hornaday on Bird Legislation

"The failure of thirty-four State Legislatures to pass laws limiting daily bag limits on migratory game birds during the last winter shows that the unorganized defenders of wild life have been unable to wake up those Legislatures to the threatened extinction of the wild ducks, geese, brant and other migratory birds, now being slaughtered by millions of so-called sportsmen," said Dr. William T. Hornaday, New York naturalist and defender of wild life, who has been making strenuous efforts to save migratory game birds from threatened extinction. "I have heard from forty-two States and only eight of them made reductions in bag limits, open seasons, or both, on migratory game birds," continued Dr.Hornaday. "Two States, Texas and Michigan, made many excellent reforms in bag limits. Five States, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Kansas, Idaho and Minnesota, have made good reductions in bag limits and open seasons. West Virginia reduced the seasons on six different kinds of migratory game birds. But in the other thirty-four States the slaughter can go on at its former rate. As the birds migrate and pass from State to State, adequate protection can only be established through laws in all States. Those States that have now passed laws are fattening up the game birds which will be ruthlessly slaughtered by hunters in the next State. Recent reports from unbiased observers in the South and in California, where wild fowl usually congregate in great numbers for winter feed, bear out the predictions we made a few months ago that our migratory game birds are doomed. The last shooting season in California is described as 'rotten.' The lawmakers do not even seem inclined to save them," said Dr. Hornaday. (Press, July 15.)

Section 3

Department of Agriculture 1

The American Florist for July 8 says: "Most of us are familiar in a general way with Quarantine No.37 and that it affects the importation of bulbs, but few in the trade realize that if the Federal Horticultural Board continues to pursue its announced policy, eventually all our imports of horticultural and agricultural products will be restricted. This will include seeds of all kinds--flower, field and vegetable. This is no idle statement or theory--it is the announced policy of the board. Bulbs are just a starter, a feeler so to speak, to test the strength and power of the board. Unless the policy of the board is changed, restrictions will be enlarged little by little until some fine morning we will awake to the fact that all of the products of foreign soils are forbidden entry into the United States. Before that time arrives it is probable that foreign countries will enact reprisal measures. Already Canada has restricted the importation of fresh peaches and peach nursery stock from certain States of the United States. There may be no connection between

this and the Federal Horticultural Board, but what about recent statements received in this country from French nurserymen to the effect that if the policy of the F.H.B. is continued the French will ask their Government to pass restrictions against American farm products. At present the F.H.B. has the support of organized American farms, but what will they think when foreign countries begin their reprisals?"

Department of Agriculture 2

An editorial entitled "Commendable Curiosity," in Engineering News-Record for July 9, says: "For a considerable time engineers have gone along with the theory that cement is cement, that concrete is concrete whatever its exposure and its use, and that provided the cement passes certain uniform standard specifications, its obligations are ended. The making of concrete is a delicate operation, which has many components and any one of them may affect the final result. Cement is only one of the elements and there are many reasons to believe that the ordinary cement of commerce will in all but a few instances make an adequate concrete provided the other elements are properly looked after. There is a tendency, therefore, to discourage such examinations as A.T. Goldbeck (Chief, Division of Tests, Bureau of Public Roads) made in his American Society for Testing Materials paper, abstracted on p.64, to say why worry about the cement when there are so many things that need greater worrying over; let's teach our workmen and educate our foremen and reason with our contractors and our engineers until they, who taken together, are making the poor concrete, begin to practice what a few enlightened students of concrete are preaching. Then when we have cured some of these obvious diseases can we commence to look into the cement. But Mr. Goldbeck has discounted this kind of criticism by admitting the facts that lead up to it, but admitting those facts he very wisely points out that there are some things we do not know about cement and that there are some things we would like to have in cement for the special purpose with which he is concerned. This is a desirable kind of inquisitive thinking that provokes study which in turn will bring about worth while results. Can not such scientific curiosity be profitably extended into the whole field of the cement specification, rather than to confine it merely to those properties peculiar to highway concrete? We are having brought to our attention more and more the unreliability of cement testing. Certain investigations made by Government bureaus, and unfortunately withheld so far from publication, show that for samples of the same cement, carefully selected, packed and shipped so as to insure identify of product, equally competent laboratories produce widely varying results under the standard specification for testing. The same laboratory, or a group of laboratories under the same direction can sometimes get concordant tests, but who knows which of the methods is the right one, when different experts interpret standard test methods differently. Shall we discard as unusable a cement which one laboratory will certify to pass a specification and another will reject or are we to begin to question whether possibly our so-called tests really indicate what they are supposed to indicate?....."

Section 4
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products July 16: Chicago hog prices closed at $14.60 for the top and $13.45 to $14.35 for the bulk. Medium and good beef steers $8 to $13.25; butcher cows and heifers $4 to $12.50; feeder steers $5.75 to $8.25; light and medium weight veal calves $10 to $12.50; fat lambs $13.25 to $15.45; feeding lambs $13 to $14.75; yearlings $10 to $13.50 and fat ewes $5 to $9.

East Shore Cobbler potatoes closed at $5 to $6.50 per barrel in city markets and mostly $5.50 to $5.75 f.o.b. Cantaloupes were in rather light demand and prices declined sharply. California Salmon Tints ranged $2.25 to $3 per standard 45 in consuming centers. Delaware and Maryland Transparent apples 50¢ to $1 lower at $1.25 to $1.75 per bushel basket in eastern markets, low as 75¢ in New York. Watermelons generally higher. Georgia and South Carolina Tom Watson watermelons 22-30 pound average ranged $300 to $650 bulk per car in distributing centers; 24-28 pound melons returning $150 to $325 to growers at Valdosta, Ga. Georgia Elberta peaches advanced to $2.75 to $3 per bushel basket in New York City, but ranged 50¢ to 75¢ lower elsewhere at $2.25 to $2.75 per carrier or basket.

Closing prices on 92 score butter: New York 42 1/2¢; Chicago 43¢; Philadelphia 44 1/2¢; Boston 44¢.

Closing grain prices July 16, 1925: No.1 dark northern, Minneapolis $1.62 to $1.79. No.2 red winter, Chicago $1.60 to $1.61; St.Louis $1.60 to $1.62; Kansas City $1.61 to $1.63. No.2 hard winter, Chicago $1.55 1/2 to $1.57; St. Louis $1.59 to $1.60; Kansas City $1.54 to $1.62. No.3 mixed corn, Minneapolis $1.05. No.2 mixed corn Kansas City $1.07. No.2 yellow corn, Chicago $1.11 1/2 to $1.12; St. Louis $1.12 1/2; Kansas City $1.15 to $1.17. No.3 yellow corn Chicago $1.11; Minneapolis $1.11. No.2 white corn, Chicago $1.09 1/4 to $1.10; Kansas City $1.07 to $1.08. No.3 white oats, Chicago 44 1/2 to 47 1/4¢; Minneapolis 43 3/8 to 43 7/8¢; St. Louis 47 3/4¢; Kansas City 48 1/2¢.

Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets advanced 28 points, closing at 24.73¢ per lb. New York July future contracts advanced 26 points, closing at 24.14¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

Industrials and Railroads

Average closing price	July 16,	July 15,	July 16, 1924
20 Industrials	133.50	133.40	96.85
20 R.R. stocks	99.42	99.16	88.08

(Wall St. Jour., July 17.)

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol.XVIII, No. 15 Section 1 July 18,1925.

GRAIN FUTURES TRADING A Chicago dispatch to the press to-day says: "A committee of the Chicago Board of Trade will submit to the members within a few days a plan for the creation of a new clearing house and the adoption of a new program for clearing trades in grain futures, in the hope that it will correct conditions of which the Secretary of Agriculture has complained. The committee has not completed its work, but its members have said that the plan will be quite similar to that in operation in Winnipeg and in some of the smaller markets in this country....A man who has spent all of his working life on the floor of the Board of Trade, and who is directly concerned in the activities of the Clearing House Committee, was asked to write an explanation of this new plan and its effect on all who have contact with the board. He reports: 'An effort is to be made to install a clearing system that will establish exactly at the end of each day just who is long or short any contract made that day and eliminate the individuals or firms who have taken intermediate part in the making of that contract....Under the present system, a firm sells a certain amount of grain to another firm and that firm sells to another and so on, until the amount sold is delivered by the original seller. In the meantime, every firm that has participated in the transaction is liable for the contract entered into until it is closed, which might take several months...!'."

RUBBER CONDITIONS An Associated Press dispatch to-day says: "Difficulties of the American rubber interests because of the unprecedented rise in the price of crude rubber were laid before the State Department July 17 by a committee headed by Frederick C. Hood, of Watertown, Mass. The conference with Secretary Kellogg was held at the invitation of President Coolidge. It was contended by the committee that the high prices are due to restrictions imposed by British interests which control the crude rubber supply. It was not charged, however, that there was any discrimination against America, as the restrictions applied generally. A memorial prepared in the name of the rubber association was left with Secretary Kellogg, who assured the committee it would be given careful consideration. No indication was given, however, of the means by which the Government might seek relief for the American rubber industry through diplomatic channels."

An Associated Press dispatch from Manila to-day says: "The Bureau of Forestry has prepared a bill for the next legislature providing for the leasing of approximately 125,000 acres of land in Cotobato Province, where success in growing rubber has been demonstrated. The bill provides for leasing the land to any company agreeing to plant it for rubber trees. The life of the leases would be twenty-five years with privilege of renewal for a like period. The Government would assess no taxes against the land during the first twenty-five-year period."

A dispatch from Gomez Palacio, Mexico, to-day says: "As a result of the increase of the price of rubber, production of crude guayule rubber in Northern Mexico has been greatly stimulated during the last few weeks. Shipments to the United States and Europe are being made at the rate of 1,000 tons a month and, with the resumption of other factories soon, this output will be increased considerably."

Section 2

Business Situation

An editorial in The Magazine of Wall Street for July 18 says: "The crop situation is reasonably good and prices are fair. This leaves a margin of profit. Farmers, indeed, are in a considerably improved financial position and have made progress in paying off their debts. This is noted by the fact that in many of the farm districts, the local banks are showing an increasing ability to take care of their own commitments without leaning too heavily, as in past days, on the Federal Reserve system. Farm communities are now busy with their crops but are expected to increase their purchases for personal and domestic uses as soon as crop prospects become more definite. Types of business which are already benefiting from farm progress are: mail order, fertilizer, automobiles and related industries, and lumber. Along with the improvement in purely agricultural pursuits, there has been a decided change for the better in the packing industry. It is easily seen that the general farm situation is rapidly returning to normal so far as its financial aspects are concerned. The situation here is quite mixed but, on the whole, firming tendency is noted. As previously expressed, steel prices for the first time in months are commencing to show stability. Metal prices, likewise, have started an uptrend. Petroleum prices are considerably above those of a year ago. Rubber is much higher. Grain prices are off from the year's peak but are still about 30% above those of a year ago this time. Cotton prices are weak due to the outlook for an exceptionally large crop. With buyers showing a disposition to enter the market for autumn requirements on an increasingly large scale, it is probable that many of the important commodities will be advanced moderately in price."

Grain Marketing Company

An editorial in The American Fertilizer for July 11 says: "The dissolution of the Grain Marketing Company, which is now announced, was foreshadowed several months ago, when the plan to sell $4,000,000 of stock to farmers failed. Nor can this failure be justly attributed to the action of officials, who prevented the sale of the stock in certain States. Farmers had already refused to buy in many States where there was no official opposition. The dissolution of the corporation ends the most ambitious attempt at cooperative marketing that has been planned since the war. The immediate cause of the failure was one that has wrecked many cooperatives--the lack of working capital. The wheat crop is harvested within a few weeks. The ultimate consumer buys his share day by day throughout the year. Meantime someone must hold the crop. The farmer is himself usually short of working capital, and can not do it. So the middleman appears. He is entitled to interest on his investment, storage and insurance charges, and also to an extra profit for the risk he takes of a falling market. If the farmers wish to sell cooperatively, they must provide this capital, pay the charges and take the risk."

Phosphate in Africa

A Cape Town dispatch to the press of July 17 states that The Argus reports the discovery of valuable deposits of phosphates about twenty-five miles from Cape Town. The phosphate area is described as covering about seven square miles.

Radio on Pennsylvania Farms

An editorial in The Pittsburgh Post for July 9 says: "L.H.Wible, director of the bureau of statistics of the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, announces that the triennial farm census discloses that 10,378 Pennsylvania farmers have radio receiving sets. As the figures were gathered in the latter part of last year, however, there are no

doubt a considerably larger number on the farms of the State now. Still the number falls very far short of the number of automobiles owned by Pennsylvania farmers. It was reported last year that 145,440, or seventy-two per cent, of the farmers of the State had motor cars. Ten years ago, however, only seven per cent had cars. A similar increase in the number of radio sets in the rural regions may be expected....The farmer is also enabled by the radio to receive promptly news that is of importance to him such as weather forecasts and market reports. Some broadcasting stations specialize in matter of interest to agricultural communities. Talks on methods of raising larger and better crops, on improving the livestock and on managing the farm more economically are given frequently. These things can not fail to win farmers over to radio. There are about 202,000 farmers in Pennsylvania. The triennial census report that only 10,378 of them have installed receiving sets shows that there exists a rich field for radio salesmen in the rural districts."

Section 3

MARKET QUOTATIONS.

Farm Products July 17: East Shore Virginia Irish Cobbler potatoes declined 50¢ to 75¢ in eastern markets to $5 to $6 per barrel. f.o.b. trading at East Shore points was 25¢ to 50¢ lower at $5.50 to $5.75. Georgia Elberta peaches mostly $2.25 to $2.75 per bushel basket and six-basket carrier in consuming centers; $1.75 to $2 f.o.b. Macon. Cantaloupes dropped $1 to $1.50 in eastern markets. Georgia Tom Watson watermelons, 22-30 pound average sold at a range of $300 to $550 bulk per car in terminal markets, top of $675 for 30 pound stock in Chicago.

Chicago hog prices closed at $14.40 for the top and $13.10 to $14.25 for the bulk. Medium and good beef steers $8 to $13.25; butcher cows and heifers $3.75 to $12.50; feeder steers $5.75 to $8.25; veal calves $10 to $12.50; fat lambs $13 to $15.25; feeding lambs $13 to $14.75; yearlings $10 to $13.50 and fat ewes $5 to $9.

Grain prices quoted July 17: No.1 dark northern, Minneapolis $1.67 1/2 to $1.84 1/2. No.2 red winter, Chicago $1.62 1/4 to $1.64; St. Louis $1.62 to $1.67; Kansas City $1.65 to $1.66. No.2 hard winter, Chicago $1.58 1/4 to $1.60 1/2; St. Louis $1.55 to $1.56 1/2; Kansas City $1.57 to $1.63. No.2 mixed corn, Chicago $1.08 1/4; Kansas City $1.07 to $1.08. No.2 yellow corn, Chicago $1.12 1/2; St. Louis $1.13; Kansas City $1.15. No.3 yellow corn, Chicago $1.10 1/2 to $1.11 1/4. No.2 white corn, St. Louis $1.10 to $1.11; Kansas City $1.08. No.3 white corn, Chicago $1.08. No.3 white oats, Chicago 45 3/4 to 48¢; St. Louis 47 3/4¢; No.2 white oats, Kansas City 49¢.

Closing prices on 92 score butter: New York 43 1/2¢; Chicago 42 1/2¢; Philadelphia 44¢; Boston 44¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.).

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol.XVIII, No. 16 Section 1 July 20, 1925.

MCCARL BANS FIELD EMPLOYEES' ALLOWANCES

The press of July 19 states that the 125,000 field employees in the Federal service must be paid strictly on a cash basis and no quarters or household furnishings provided by the Government except in those instances specifically authorized by Congress, Comptroller General McCarl ruled July 18. The Comptroller General makes specific reference to the Department of Agriculture in his decision....pointing out that the Weather Bureau furnishes living quarters, heat and light for observers and their families in places where there are no Government-owned buildings. The Bureau of Plant Industry, he declared, supplies dwellings and heat for superintendents of field stations.

"In view of the long standing practice," the decision reads, "no objection will be raised prior to June 20, 1926, to contracting for personal services in the field partly on the basis of quarters, maintenance or equipment furnished for personal use by the Government, but if identical or similar provisions of law to those herein set forth are enacted for the fiscal year, 1927, and in the absence of express statutory authority therefor, the practice must be discontinued June 30,1926, and thereafter compensation paid solely on a cash basis."

ECONOMIC INSTITUTE MOVED

The press of July 19 states that enlargement of the work of the Institute for Research in Land Economics and Public Utilities is expected to be made possible through the affiliation which has just been agreed to with Northwestern University, and through the removal of headquarters of the institute from Madison, Wis., to Chicago. Topics to be investigated by the institute under its enlarged plan as announced by Dr.Richard T.Ely, director, include the question of what is the proper balance between the improvements to be put upon land and the value of the land, the question of fair rent and rent regulation, the question of what is the trend of living habits in American communities as they affect housing requirements, the question of the relation of changes in land values to changes in population, and the question of farm tenancy, and the place it should occupy in the general system of land tenure.

HAY CURING

A Madison, Wis., dispatch to the press of July 19 states that experimental engineers of the department of agriculture, University of Wisconsin, reported July 18 on a new method in haymaking recently demonstrated at Genesee depot experimental farms. By means of a high pressure hot air fan new mown hay was ready for baling 8 hours after raking. Besides obviating the two or three weeks' field drying, the artificial process eliminates the risk of moisture damage and pests.

MICHELIS HEADS AGRICULTURAL INSTITUTE

An Associated Press dispatch from Rome July 17 states that Giuseppe de Michelis, Commissioner General of Emigration, has been appointed president of the International Institute of Agriculture. Signor de Michelis was Minister of Agriculture in the Nitti and Gioltti cabinets.

Section 2

British Agriculture moved

An editorial in The Field (London) for July 2 says: "We have been to reflection by reading the report of the Ministry of Agriculture on the prices and supplies of agricultural produce in 1924. It is there stated that last year home produce accounted for only 18 per cent of the wheat consumed by the Nation, just 40 per cent of the meat, 17 per cent of the butter, 31 per cent of the cheese, and 50 per cent of the eggs. During the year the Nation bought agricultural produce from overseas at a cost of several hundred million pounds. Well, this may be a sound enough state of affairs for an industrial country with a flourishing export trade, but when Great Britain is unable to find work for one-and-a-quarter million of her people, such facts do call for serious attention not only from statesmen but also from every thinking citizen. Until the nineteenth century farming was the paramount industry of the country. Since then the rapid development of urban industries has absorbed the national energies to the exclusion of agriculture, and to-day it seems that we are paying the penalty. It is not surprising that there is a growing feeling that the time has come for agriculture to be treated more as a national asset which could provide both food and a livelihood for a larger proportion of the population. As a statesman recently said, our present economic structure somewhat resembles an inverted pyramid, and it is essential that agriculture--the one basic industry--should be developed to steady the whole. It is not easy to define what is wrong with British agriculture. It is not that the farmer does not know his job, which in present circumstances is to make a living from his holding as best he can. In this he succeeds tolerably well....The free use of capital and labor on the land to secure maximum production is ideal from the national point of view, but it is far from clear that it offers the farmer any prospect of larger net returns. In recent years circumstances have driven farmers in the opposite direction, and the tendency has been to cut down outlay wherever possible by laying down land to grass. Nor can any defects in our agriculture be fairly attributed to a lack of small family holdings. In short, one is driven to the conclusion that what is needed to put new life into agriculture is a fundamental change in the national outlook. A deplorable feature of the industrialization of England has been the estrangement from the land of the majority of the population, with the result that for every elector whose interests are bound up with rural England, there are now five to whom agriculture means nothing. Since the war there have been one or two hasty attempts to arouse the conscience of town dwellers to the need for greater production from the land of this country, but they failed because the electorate had not been educated to realize the national value of agriculture. Looking abroad we find that our neighbors have been wiser. The prosperity of the thickly populated countryside of Germany and Denmark is based upon the active goodwill of the whole population, and everything possible is done by benevolent governments to encourage production. We know as well as they that arable land produces more food and employs more labor than grassland. Investigations in this country have shown that the amount of labor employed on arable farms is about twice that employed on grass farms, and that the amount of human food produced is more than three times as great. Yet as a nation we have been content to make little use of this knowledge. In ordinary circumstances Great Britain now grows enough produce to feed her population for ten weeks in the year; for the remaining forty-two supplies from overseas are necessary...National goodwill and Government encouragement can do much, but those of us who are engaged in farming will have to play the leading part in the revival of our industry."

Canadian Grain Pools

An editorial in The Wisconsin Agriculturist for July 4 says: "The wheat pool of Saskatchewan, Canada, after marketing a large part of the 1924 crop of wheat, is now busy seeking to strengthen its control by signing up an additional two million acres before harvest. The pool has 800 committees at work representing the wheat cooperative grain growers' association, Farmers' Union and local business men. These committees are canvassing in various parts of Saskatchewan and expect the sign-up drive to place 75 per cent of the wheat acreage into the channels of cooperative marketing. Coincident with the new wheat campaign, a coarse grain pool is also being organized. The provisions of the membership contract run parallel to those of the wheat contract and cover oats, barley, rye and flax. Under the terms of the agreement which growers are asked to sign, the wheat pool will become the sales agent for coarse grains while elevators under contract to the wheat pool will act as local handling agents....The Minnesota official organ of the growers hits the nail squarely on the head when it says the Canadian farmer is depending upon his own marketing organization, while the American farmer has been depending upon the 42 cent tariff."

Chinese Flour

An editorial in Modern Miller for July 4 says: "Conditions in China favor flour importations and some heavy purchases have been made recently on the Pacific Coast. China has modern flour mills and Shanghai with more than 20 mills has a capacity of 26,000 barrels daily. China is in a serious turmoil and the mills of Shanghai and North China are not apt to function normally....Just how China is going to restore order and permit flour distribution on a safe basis is not in evidence. But it appears that China will need a lot of flour to feed its numerous armies and ward off hunger."

Food Prices

The retail food index issued by the United States Department of Labor through the Bureau of Labor Statistics shows that there was an increase of more than two per cent in the retail cost of food in June,1925, as compared with May, 1925. The index number (1913 = 100.0) was 151.6 in May and 155.0 in June. For the year period, June 15, 1924, to June 15, 1925, the increase in all articles of food combined was approximately 9 per cent. For the twelve-year period, June 15, 1913, to June 15,1925, the increase in all articles of food combined was about 58.5 per cent.

Freight Rates

An editorial in The Journal of Commerce for July 17 says: "According to official announcement now made the Interstate Commerce Commission will begin a general probe of the western railroad situation on the first of September next. Current dispatches indicate that the investigation thus planned will have a twofold purpose. It will, on the one hand, endeavor to ascertain whether there is any justice in the claims of the farmers to lower rates than those now in effect in that territory and, on the other, to determine by study of the earnings of the carrier companies involved not only whether the transportation industry in this section of the country can stand lower rates but apparently also whether higher rates are indicated in the circumstances. Such a study if carefully and fearlessly made ought to do a good deal to clear up a troubled and important situation. Prompt action premised upon facts clearly brought to light might well be of distinct service to the farmers, the railroads and the country alike....."

Hop Demand in Canada — A report on the hop-growing industry of Canada, issued by the Canadian Pacific Railway, states that while it is not an important industry at present, there are pertinent factors which make it capable of considerable expansion. Efforts in this line are being made because the increasing output of her breweries, due to the extension of sales throughout the Dominion, and most recently in Ontario, require greatly increased importations of hops.

South America's Trade — Significant facts concerning the present-day foreign trade of South American countries are brought out in a pamphlet, "South America's Trade" just published by the foreign commerce department of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States. The pamphlet contains a series of tables from the official South American and United States statistics, showing the chief commodities bought and sold by each country, the best customers and chief suppliers, and other important statistical information. Individual tables are given, showing United States trade with each republic. The figures used are in general for 1923, these being the latest available in detail for all countries, according to the department. A statement issued by the department, based upon figures contained in the pamphlet, states that the United States is South America's best customer. In 1923 Colombia sent 85.5 per cent of her exports, over 80 per cent coffee, to the United States; Chile, 46 per cent, largely nitrate of soda; Ecuador, 43.1 per cent, over 70 per cent cacao; Brazil, 41.3 per cent, over 80 per cent coffee; Peru, 39.7 per cent, chiefly copper; Bolivia, 35 per cent, over 90 per cent tin ore; Venezuela, 26.9 per cent, nearly two-thirds coffee; Argentina, 11.6 per cent, with flax seed and hides and skins leading; Paraguay, 9 per cent, quebracho extract accounting for 95 per cent; and Uruguay, 6.6 per cent, unmanufactured wool representing 67 per cent of the amount. It is of interest to note, says the department, that during the same year, 1923, only two South American republics took more than one per cent of the total United States exports; Argentina taking 2.7 per cent and Brazil 1.1 per cent.

Soviet Crops — The grain crops of the Soviet Union for the current year will amount to 63,540,000 tons, with an additional 2,880,000 tons of left-over stocks, according to estimates of the Planning Commission of the Soviet Commissariat of Agriculture, received by the Russian Information Bureau in this country. The estimate is considerably higher than figures published earlier in the year and 20 per cent higher than the harvests of last year. According to the Planning Commission, 7,650,000 tons of grain will be available for export. (Press, July 17.)

Tenant Farmers — An editorial in The Michigan Farmer for July 11 says:"....In the West they are now trying a new plan. The Laura Rockefeller Foundation is backing a corporation which has for its object the purchase of farm land and tenanting it with the thought that it will be eventually sold to the tenant. The strong point in this plan is that the corporation will have experts advise the tenants so that they can get maximum returns from their lands. In a proposition of this sort the company must of necessity be interested in the success of its patrons, and do all it can to help bring it about. One of the chief objections to farming is that it requires quite a little capital, especially to do it right. But it seems that with the backing of a good corporation and under its direction, an ambitious young man can become an owner in due time, and also become a better

farmer. It is hoped that this experiment will prove a success. If it is, it may result in similar institutions being developed in other sections of the country to make farm ownership possible to many, to whom it has been almost impossible before."

Section 3

Department of Agriculture

Sioux City Live Stock Record for July 14 says: "This paper is in hearty accord with the following excerpt from the recent address of Secretary of Agriculture Jardine, and comments thereon from the Omaha Journal-Stockman...In his wholly admirable address at Ames, Iowa, last week, Secretary of Agriculture Jardine touched on a phase of the agricultural situation that both politicians and economists have recognized for many years but have apparently been afraid to handle, the large expansion in unremunerative farm area. The Secretary's position on this matter is clear and boldly stated. He said; 'While considering the problem of surpluses, I should add a word in regard to the need of exercising a better control over the expansion of our farm land area....Putting people on land where they can not make a living and where their products not only bring them no profit but force down the prices for others does not benefit any farmer.....' There it is in a nutshell. At the behest of politicians and land speculators we have been guilty of inviting a large number of people to settle on lands unfit for agriculture and they are to-day eking out a precarious existence in their attempt to farm these lands. The taking up of much of this land for agricultural purposes was not only a serious error as far as the settlers were concerned, but it entailed a needless expense on the cattle and sheep growers who had been putting these arid and semi-arid areas to their natural use. Throughout the entire period of farm land expansion the Journal-Stockman urged on Congress the danger of the indiscriminate opening of these grazing areas to settlement. This paper urged that the lands be segregated and only those areas suitable for irrigation or ranching be opened, while the purely grazing areas be set aside for lease or sale to cattle and sheep growers. Such a course would have prevented much needless suffering and injury to both the farmers and the stock growers. As the Secretary very clearly points out such a course would also have prevented the unremunerative surplus products of these areas from unduly depressing the products of farmers in the strictly agricultural sections of the country. The damage has been done, however, and the whole country has had to suffer for the blunder in administration of the public dominion. Fortunately there is no chance for a repetition of the mistake and the problem now is to make the best of the situation. The country will certainly approve of the Secretary's position in this matter."

Section 4
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products For the week ended July 17: Chicago hog prices ranged from 15 to 20¢ higher than a week ago; medium and good beef steers 25¢ lower to 75¢ higher; butcher cows and heifers 10¢ lower to 75¢ higher; feeder steers steady to 25¢ lower; fat lambs 50¢ to $1 lower; feeding lambs steady; yearlings steady to 50¢ higher; fat ewes 50 to 75¢ higher.

Potato markets weaker. East Shore Virginia Irish Cobblers declined 50 to 75¢ in eastern markets. F.o.b. trading at East Shore points was 25 to 50¢ lower. Kansas and Missouri Cobblers down $1 to $1.10 on the Chicago carlot market. Peach prices irregular. Belles sold somewhat lower than Elbertas. Cantaloupes dropped $1 to $1.50 in eastern markets.

Grain market unsettled. Wheat futures about 15¢ higher than week ago on spread black rust in Northwest and less favorable outlook in Canada. Export demand slack but farmers marketing sparingly and mills absorbing bulk of receipts. Corn higher with wheat but oats prices sagging with approach new crop movement.

Butter markets were firm and prices advanced about 1¢. Trade was fairly active although speculative buying was limited. However, storage holdings continued to increase steadily.

Cheese markets were reported as somewhat steadier. Prices on the Wisconsin Boards of July 10 were held unchanged and dealers have reported obtaining fair margins over these prices. Distributing markets were quiet but steady.

Hay market easier with increased offerings. Demand slack with consumers buying from hand to mouth. Movement new timothy increasing.

Feed markets fairly firm. Wheat millfeed offerings good, but in light request. Demand for middlings better than for bran. Very few deferred offerings which are quoted at about spot prices. Cottonseed meal and cake strong. Linseed meal is good supply but domestic demand rather light.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets advanced 8 points during the week. New York July future contracts advanced 10 points. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol.XVIII, No. 17 Section 1 July 21, 1925

THE SECRETARY AT COOPERATION INSTITUTE

The Philadelphia Ledger to-day reports: "William M.Jardine, Secretary of Agriculture, put the problem of agricultural prosperity up to leaders of cooperative marketing organizations yesterday when he spoke at the opening session of the American Institute of Cooperation, being conducted at the University of Pennsylvania. It was the start of a four weeks' course planned by the institute to be held in buildings of the University for the purpose of educating and training executives for cooperative marketing associations...." The Secretary said in the course of his speech, which is given in full in the Ledger: "The principle of cooperation I consider to be so important, not only to agriculture but to the national life as a whole, that I am happy to place the Department of Agriculture at the service of this great movement."

Richard Pattee, chairman of the institute and manager of the New England Milk Producers' Association, presided at the opening session. In his opening address he stressed the cooperative movement as the best means of giving the producer equality with other groups.

INTERNATIONAL DAIRY HONORS TO IOWA BOYS

An Ames, Iowa, dispatch to the press of July 20 states that three Iowa boys, Raymond Monahan, Lester Olson and Harlan Leonard, July 19 became the champion junior dairy judges of the world as a result of their victory in an international contest held in connection with the English Royal Show, London July 18. The victory was announced in a cablegram from Earl Weaver, head of the Dairy Husbandry Department of Iowa State College, who accompanied the team abroad. The team won the American judging title last year.

ROUMANIA TO EXPORT WHEAT SURPLUS

A Berlin dispatch to the press of July 20 states that a special dispatch from Bucharest says the Roumanian Government has consented to the export of 60,000 carloads of wheat, in view of the good harvest. A reduction in the export tax also is granted because of the prevalent low prices of wheat in the world markets. The export of crude oil has been abolished, adds the dispatch.

TEXAS COTTON POOL

An Austin, Tex., dispatch to the press to-day states that for the past season the Texas Farm Bureau Cotton Association returned to its members $33,456,179. The final distribution, totaling $5,772,821, was made a few days ago. "We are justified in saying that our average price was approximately $10 a bale above the average street price," the management says, "and the members are $2,842,240 better off than had they sold their cotton on their local markets."

GRAIN EXPORTS

Grain exports from the United States last week were 3,330,000 bushels, against 4,332,000 bushels the week before. (Press, July 21.)

Section 2

British Beet Sugar Subsidies

An editorial in The Estate Magazine (London) for July says: "As a stone thrown into a pool sets up a succession of ever enlarging rings, so has the action of the Government in granting substantial subsidies for the encouragement of beet sugar manufacture in Great Britain set up an ever widening circle of interest in the industry. The Dutch, realizing the enormous incentive given by the Government grants under the Trades Facilities acts towards cost of buildings and machinery, and the promise of large profits which the liberal subsidies voted would enable them to earn, were first in the field, and with their factories at Kelham, Cantle, and elsewhere have shewn us the way to success....But thus far the stimulus has been that of self-interest alone. There has been no broad outlook. It has been a case of the Dutch for the Dutch; the machinery makers for the machinery makers, the refiners for the refiners; none caring at all for the original foundation of the Government's action -- the encouragement of British agriculture, the discovery for the farmer of an outlet for a profitable crop as some sort of solatium or recompense for the scurvy trick played upon him four years ago when he was promised great things under the Corn Production act, because of his patriotic work during the war; and was encouraged to incur all sorts of costs -- even to the buying of his farm -- to enable him to grow the crop that was to be subsidized, only to be told at the end of a few months that the Government of the day could not--because of opposition in the towns--fulfil its promises; and must ignominiously repeal the act, despite the many 'never again' protests against leaving the farmer in the lurch to which utterance had been given. The difference between the Corn Production act subsidy, and the beet sugar subsidy--the reason why this latter is to be continued, even though it be equally as costly to the Nation as was the Corn Production subsidy--is this, that while in the former case all the profit went to the farmer, in the case of the Beet Sugar subsidy it is the Dutch, and the machinery makers, and the sugar refiners who will benefit even more than the farmers, so that industrial interests being placated, the farmer is left to the wolves--to make the best bargain he can with the industrialists for his produce, or just ignore the whole thing and leave the industrialists in their turn to the wolves. It is only because none can do without him that he has held his own and has obtained even a reasonable reward for his enterprise in undertaking the growing of a new crop which makes exceptional demands on his skill for its cultivation, and leaves the matter of returns--at any rate in the first year--an unknown quantity. But for his own sturdy independence and the help of the Government and the Farmers' Union he would not have got the prices that he has secured....."

Farm Equipment

An editorial in The Wisconsin Agriculturist for July 11 says: "A well-known writer for The Chicago Tribune, who writes under the name 'Scrutator,' says that a recent report from the research department of the National Farm Equipment Manufacturers, suggests greater strides in agriculture in the future. In the darkest days of 1921, the more efficient farmers spent $309,000,000 for equipment and $610,000,000 for automobiles, a pretty substantial bet on the future of their business by those who had mastered it. This report says that the output for tractors and implements in the first half of 1925, as shown by the great expansion of the pay rolls of such factories, is now followed by an unusually light demand for farm labor. The rate at which labor is being saved on the farm is indicated by the fact that in 1910 an average of $4.48 worth of machinery per acre of crops was employed, and in 1920 an average of $6.43 per acre was used. In the same period the horses per worker rose from 1.9 to 2.4. As a result the acres farmed per worker rose from 24.6 to 32.6. As

showing how farming is holding its own and how railroad freight rates have not retarded the movement of farm products to market, this writer says that freight originating on Class 1 railroads was 116,579,252 tons in 1924, 109,317,665 tons in 1923, 111,787,032 tons in 1922, 114,068,706 tons in 1921, and 110,839,554 tons in 1920."

Gold Standard in Britain

British financial experts point out that the greatly increased stability of the pound, which, though it preceded actual return to a gold basis, was largely due to the expectation that the return was imminent, has now begun to exercise a modified influence on the excess of imports over exports, which in the last year had grown so much. According to advices received by Bankers Trust Company of New York, by its British information service, it is not easy to explain the enormous increase in the adverse balance in the second half of 1924 in any other way than as a function of the overvaluation of the pound. In January 1924 dollar exchange was quoted at 4.26, and the Board of Trade index number of commodity prices at 165.4. The Board of Trade number steadily declined until in July it stood at 162.6 while the exchange rate advanced until in July it stood at 4.37. From that month the exchange rate and the Board of Trade number advanced together, until in January 1925 the exchange rate stood at 4.77 and the Board of Trade index at 171.0. Since then, while the exchange has advanced practically to parity of 4.86, the Board of Trade index number has turned down and at the end of May was 159.0.

Grain Marketing Company

An editorial on the Grain Marketing Company in The Northwestern Miller for July 15 says: "The trial has been made and has failed so signally that this generation, at least, probably will not witness another attempt to bring about cooperative marketing of grain on a large scale. This is the more evident in the fact that failure was not due to lack of practical success in the conduct of the company's affairs; for, on the contrary, the business was capably managed throughout the period of trial and a handsome profit was earned through legitimate trading and storage operations. Final abandonment of the scheme and dissolution of the company was due entirely to the refusal of the farmer to participate. It may be that his refusal was in part due to claims that the properties were turned in at greatly inflated values, although an appraisal by the farmers' representatives substantiated the vendors' figures. It is much more probable that the farmer is not half so much concerned over cooperative marketing as his political saviors believe him to be....As the matter now stands, the grain grower seems destined to continue to market his crops through the medium of unsympathetic men who will fight valiantly with one another in their endeavor to make a profit from the grain they handle. They will not cooperate but they undoubtedly will go on struggling to such good purpose that the net toll taken from grain as it moves to mill and market will continue to be so small that no amount of cooperative effort can possibly compete with it. Pools and grain growers' organizations and all sorts of schemes have been presented, tried and failed. Finally, a vast organization, with facilities never before equaled in the grain trade, was offered to the service of the farmer if he wanted it. He turned aside, and no one can be sure his decision is not sound. It was a fair trial and a convincing decision."

Hoover on Cooperatives

A San Jose dispatch to the press of July 18 states that Secretary Hoover told an audience at San Jose July 17 that cooperative marketing associations handling agricultural produce should be freed of the restrictions of the Sherman anti-trust law. "The Department of Commerce came to the early conclusion that the hope of improving distribution systems in fruits and vegetables was in the establishment of cooperatives, because we do not see any other agency by which commodities can be standardized and dealt in at distribution centers economically and without speculation. We have felt that for the cooperative the law should be very much widened, so that cooperatives are not under any restraint of law in trade practices." Replying to a question as to how far a cooperative might be relieved of legal restraint, Mr. Hoover said: "I see no harm in taking them clear out from under the Sherman act." Declaring that action could be justified on purely economic grounds, he explained that agricultural products differ from other products in that an excessive price can not be fixed and maintained in the event a cooperative secured a monopoly of a product.

An editorial on this subject in The Journal of Commerce for July 20 says: "The Secretary of Commerce in support of some rather extreme views with regard to the wisdom of freeing agricultural cooperatives from all restraint under the anti-trust laws is quoted as saying, in a recent discourse, in effect that agricultural products differ from other products in that an excessive price can not be fixed and maintained in the event a cooperative secured monopoly of them. Evidently the Secretary is not familiar with the history of some of the cooperative operations of his own State. It likewise appears doubtful if he had fresh in his memory certain of the achievements of similar organizations in other parts of the country. Of course, it is true that a good many cooperative agricultural organizations have failed in their endeavor to establish and to maintain excessive prices, and more than one of them have gone on the rocks by reason of it. That, however, was because they either could not gain a really monopolistic control of supply or else could not control the production of their own members. These or similar dangers confront all producers who try to wring undue profit from the consumer by means of cornering supply. Certainly there is nothing to support the thought that agricultural products are sui generis in this respect."

Rubber and Cotton

An editorial in The Baltimore Sun for July 20 says: "Rubber can serve as the text for a treatise which should have a good sale in the United States. Everyone uses or wants to use rubber. If he has no automobile, he likes to ride in his neighbor's. And the British have a near-monopoly on producing the elastic stuff and are jacking up prices. But the American rubber industry, encouraged by Secretary Hoover, can develop rubber plantations in the Philippines. This sounds comforting; but does it mean that the American automobilist will get cheap tires? One is not sure. Producers have a habit, not of lowering prices, but of meeting them. American rubber from the Philippines may cut out British rubber in the American market in a dozen years or so without saving the consumer a cent. If, moreover, the Philippine plantations are expensive to develop and operate, the American growers may not become rich, either. The prospect is a little hazy, no matter how one looks at it.

"On the other hand, there is cotton also to consider. While Britain has a rubber monopoly, the United States has a good grip on cotton prices. For this reason the British are planning great cotton plantations

in the Sudan and in Mesopotamia....This increased supply of British-grown cotton and the output of American-grown rubber are in the same category. They are at present dreams, but with a chance of fulfillment; and to give substance to each of them is each nation's desire to be economically independent and self-contained. That is the imperial motif. There is also the chance for stockholders on the ground floor to make considerable profits. That is the financial inducement. But the missing part of the story is that which tells the consumer of cotton in Great Britain and of rubber in the United States that prices are going to be held down to reasonable figures. Perhaps the promoters of these undertakings are unwilling to talk about that for fear that their schemes will be called visionary; and yet that is the sort of vision which several hundred million consumers would like them to have."

Section 3

Department of Agriculture

An editorial in The Journal of Commerce for July 20 says: "Cotton 'pars' for the month of July are now given forth with the usual gravity from the Department of Agriculture. These figures unfortunately are of some importance to the cotton trade; unfortunately for the simple reason that they represent merely an attempt to put in the form of figures a concept that no one has ever yet succeeded in defining, and important by reason of the fact that they will directly affect and in a measure control the production forecasts of the Government itself and of numerous private estimators. When it is realized that these so-called par figures are but the expression of judgment on the part of certain individuals in the Department of Agriculture as to the concept in the farmer's mind corresponding to an ill-defined term, i.e., a normal or full crop, the wonder is that there is anyone in the length and breadth of the land that can induce himself to take them seriously. These gravely announced 'pars' are, too, like railroad and steamship schedules, subject to change without notice. The figure for Georgia to-day is 170. Next week, or at any time prior to the appearance of the department's report to which it relates, it may be 175 or 165. This anomalous and highly absurd situation is, of course, by no means confined to the question of 'par' figures. To those who are familiar with the crop reporting service as it is now conducted are well enough aware that the statistical naivete that finds expression in these 'pars' has plenty of other outlets. When will the Department of Agriculture and, what is still more important, Congress awake to the fact that the people of this country are not only being heavily imposed upon by having foisted upon them mountains of worthless junk in the form of crop reports but that a great deal of real service that might be rendered is being neglected?"

Section 4
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

July 20: Virginia Irish Cobbler potatoes ranged $5 to $6.25 per barrel in city markets; $5.25 to $5.60 f.o.b. East Shore points. Georgia Elberta peaches sold in consuming centers at $2.25 to $2.75 per bushel basket and six-basket carrier a range only slightly below last week's. California cantaloupes declined 75¢ to $1.25 per crate, Imperial Valley Salmon tints closing at $2 to $2.50 per standard 45 in leading markets. Georgia and South Carolina 22-30 pound Tom Watsons ranged mostly $225 to $450 bulk per car in terminal markets, 30 pound stock reaching $525 in New York and $600 in Pittsburgh.

Chicago hog prices closed at $13.90 for the top and $12.80 to $13.70 for the bulk. Medium and good beef steers $8 to $13.40; butcher cows and heifers $3.75 to $12.50; feeder steers $5.75 to $8.25; light and medium weight veal calves $9.50 to $12; fat lambs $13 to $15; feeding lambs $13 to $14.75; yearlings $9.75 to $13.25 and fat ewes $5 to $9.

Closing prices on 92 score butter: New York 43 1/2¢; Chicago 42 1/2¢; Philadelphia 44¢; Boston 44¢.

Grain prices quoted July 20: No.1 dark northern Minneapolis $1.64 to $1.82. No.2 red winter St. Louis $1.63 to $1.65; Kansas City $1.64. No.3 red winter Chicago $1.59 1/4 to $1.61. No.2 hard winter Chicago $1.58 1/2 to $1.61; St. Louis $1.58 1/2 to $1.59; Kansas City $1.56 to $1.67. No.2 mixed corn Chicago $1.07 3/4; Kansas City $1.03. No.2 yellow corn Chicago $1.10 to $1.11 1/2; St. Louis $1.11; Kansas City $1.08. No.3 yellow corn Chicago $1.10 1/2. No.2 white corn St. Louis $1.10; No.3 white corn Chicago $1.05. No.3 white oats Chicago 42 1/2 to 46¢; St. Louis 46 1/2 to 47¢; Kansas City 46 1/2¢.

Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets declined 3 points, closing at 24.33¢ per lb. New York July future contracts declined 5 points, closing at 23.70¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

Industrials and Railroads

Average closing price	July 20,	July 18,	July 19, 1924.
20 Industrials	135.00	134.68	98.07
20 R.R. stocks	99.28	99.19	88.69

(Wall St. Jour., July 21.)

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol.XVIII, No. 18 Section 1 July 22, 1925.

THE FARM SITUATION

An editorial in to-day's New York Times says: "Senator Curtis of Kansas must be a greatly daring man to have told the correspondents at Swampscott that he didn't think the Federal Government is bound to do something at once for the relief of farmers. It was not one of the big legislative problems which he wished to discuss with the President. He boldly added that out in his State, at least, the farmers were 'doing pretty well'. But is not this to take an unfair advantage of the absence of his colleague, Senator Capper, in Europe? It is doubtful if that watchful gentleman could discover a single happy farmer in the whole State of Kansas....It is true that Senator Curtis has mild approval for cooperative marketing as a means of helping the farmer. Despite the failure of several cooperative societies--the latest one ran into big figures--farm cooperation is now a word almost as blessed and unctuous as Mesopotamia. The Secretary of Agriculture makes use of it on every occasion. Perhaps Mr. Jardine, after his recent tour of inspection through the West, has a wider and more accurate view of agricultural conditions than that rashly put forward by Senator Curtis. To the credit of the Secretary, however, it must be said that he has consistently warned the western farmers against pinning their faith to any sort of legislative nostrum. He, too, has taken his courage in both hands and told the farmers that self-help is the very best kind of help they could possibly hope for. They have endured hardships in other years greater than those with which they have at present to deal, and as they pulled themselves out of their troubles before so they can again. This may be heresy--it certainly will be denounced as such by the politicians who are the professional friends of the farmer--but it sounds amazingly like common sense."

ADMINISTRATION ECONOMY

A Swampscott, Mass., dispatch to the press to-day says: "A statement by Senator Curtis that the United States can save $200,000,000 which can be applied to tax reduction if the governmental reorganization strategy plan is adopted, is viewed here as a new form of administration strategy to gain public and congressional support for an undertaking which the President heartily believes in but against which terrific opposition is directed. Heretofore the claim has not been made that governmental reorganization would result in large economies, but Senator Curtis is believed to be following in the footsteps of Secretary Hoover, of the Commerce Department, when he says great savings can be made by a proper system of organization and that in addition there will be an aggregate tax reduction from $300,000,000 to $500,000,000."

A second dispatch says: "Secretary Hoover of the Department of Commerce has in memoranda sent to President Coolidge pointed the way toward the $200,000,000 saving which Senator Curtis claims can be applied to tax reduction if the next Congress will authorize the necessary consolidations. It is Mr. Hoover's opinion, shared by the administration, it is said, that an even larger drain upon the taxpayer than extravagance and inflation of pay rolls, which Mr. Coolidge is trying to reduce by curtailing personnel, 'is the waste which arises from poor organization.'...."

Section 2

Agricultural Legislation

An editorial in The Washington Post for July 21 says: "Secretary of Agriculture Jardine has been making an intensive study of agricultural conditions in the West and Northwest and will report his findings to President Coolidge at Swampscott. The President himself has been giving considerable attention to the farm problem and has conferred with several political leaders who are deeply interested in the farmers. He is to have other conferences before he returns to Washington. Correspondents who are covering the summer White House are not in accord as to what the executive has in mind relative to agricultural legislation in the next Congress. The Secretary of Agriculture is reported to have reached the conclusion that the farmers do not expect any material relief from additional legislation and that he will recommend to the President that no major legislative farm program be laid before Congress by Mr.Coolidge when that body convenes in December. The Secretary found, it is said, that in such important agricultural States as Iowa and Illinois there is still an organized movement to demand such legislation at the hands of Congress. Farmers for the most part individually, Secretary Jardine believes, take the view that they must work out their own problems through cooperative organization.

"It may be the President will not present to Congress any specific recommendations for farm legislation, but in view of his insistence at the last session that some remedial measure be adopted, it is hardly likely he will fail to impress upon Congress his views as to what the Federal Government should do to help the farmer and to safeguard agriculture against a recurrence of the distressful conditions that existed a little more than a year ago. Moreover, with men like Senator Borah so firmly convinced that legislation can help the farmer that he expressed himself in favor of calling an extraordinary session of Congress to take up agricultural legislation, it is unlikely that Mr. Coolidge would consider the subject of so little importance that he would not include it among the major problems to be submitted to Congress. The failure of Congress to act upon any of the more important recommendations made by the President's agricultural commission at the last session will probably make the Executive all the more keen to have the matter disposed of when Congress meets again in December."

Australian Chilled Beef

An editorial in The Pastoral Review (Melbourne) for June 16 says: "The arrival in London last month of the small parcel of Australian chilled beef in sound condition opens up vistas of possibilities for the beef export trade. When the adverse circumstances that attended the shipment are recalled it must be acknowledged that the safe delivery was no small achievement for the chilling process employed and those who were responsible for its proper functioning. Apart from sundry little hitches incidental to an initial shipment the meat was subjected to undue delay and exposure between the works in Melbourne and ship side that could not have improved its appearance. Then the actual voyage took some sixty-five days instead of the normal forty. Despite these disabilities experts agree that the hinds, at all events, were marketed in excellent condition and with a bright appearance. Still, of course, this success does not necessarily mean that the shipment of chilled beef from Australia is going to be commercially possible under present day conditions. Apart from the mere carriage, the chilled beef trade, as developed in South America, is highly specialized in respect of breeding and feeding, to mention but two points. Australia, if it is going to compete with success, will have to specialize to the same extent."

Farm Bureau on Rail Appeal

An Associated Press dispatch from Chicago July 20 states that the petition of 73 western railroads for an 11 per cent increase in freight rates will meet the organized opposition of the American Farm Bureau Federation, it was announced July 19 by officers of the organization following a conference there on Saturday. Farm bureaus in 22 States affected by the increase will be mobilized to fight the petition. "To talk of raising rates is madness," declared O. F. Bradfute, president of the federation. "Farmers of the West and Middle West are now finding present high rates a real obstacle in the way to their economic recovery. The Farm Bureau will fight the proposal until it is killed." Hearings on the petition of the railroads before the Interstate Commerce Commission have been set for September. The proposed increase would add $180,000,000 to the annual freight bill of the States affected, of which $95,000,000 would be paid directly by farmers, said O. W. Sandberg, transportation director of the bureau.

Federal Road Aid

"A very wrong impression is current that Federal aid is of usefulness only in the more thinly populated sections of the country. Congestion of traffic in the more densely populated areas of the eastern section of the United States is demanding highway facilities that require an immense expenditure of funds and dollar for dollar the Federal road appropriations are probably serving more traffic east of the Mississippi than West. A situation exists in the western part of the United States, however, that can only be remedied by the application of Federal funds, or at least only will be remedied within any reasonable time from this source. In the nine States of Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, Nevada, Arizona and New Mexico the primary roads alone of the Federal Highway system will aggregate 10,750 miles. Of this mileage 3,290 are unimproved and 2,290 are graded or lightly surfaced, that is, more than one-half of the primary mileage, which includes all the main transcontinental routes, are unimproved or are improved by grading only with a small mileage or light surfacing with selected materials... The utilizations of Federal aid to serve most efficiently the needs is seriously handicapped, both in the Eastern and Western States. In the East the limitation of $15,000 per mile imposes a handicap upon the States that should be removed or very materially modified since it is impossible to build on the main traffic thoroughfares roadways of adequate capacity without expending very much more per mile than double this amount. It is true that the mileages of such roads are limited, but it is equally true that the need for this limited mileage is great, measured by the traffic which desires to use them. It is not alone the construction cost for the roadways proper that is serious. In re-building these old thoroughfares the original alignments of the roads have been lost and the old surveys, unless in exceptional cases, can not be re-run...In this the Federal funds do not participate, which is an additional argument for greater latitude in the per mile allotment of Federal funds for construction. In the West there are many sections of the transcontinental routes which are not of so much importance to the State or to the localities in which they lie as are other sections much less important as links in the through routes. On these sections recommendations to the Congress have been made by the Bureau of Public Roads and by the States that latitude be given in financing these projects to increase the percentage of Federal Aid up to the full cost of the road. This plan does not increase the allotment to the States or modify in any way the funds allotted to other States but does make possible the use of the Federal funds by the State

to serve this truly national purpose. In view of the controversy which waged a few years ago over the Federal highway legislation, it may be noted that there is gradually being worked out a plan which is, in effect, a combination of the two ideas of Federal aid roads and of national roads. The combination is more applicable to the national problem as a whole than either policy alone. This is particularly true since as the roads are complete their utilization by the public has resulted in constantly increasing funds from the road user to maintain them." (Georgia Highways, June.)

Florida Agriculture

Florida Times Union for July 16 says: "Thanks to better farming in Florida, Agricultural Statistician Fleming is enabled to make a very gratifying report of conditions as of July 11. Florida farmers, he says, have planned and carried out a well-balanced program for the year.... Florida, like other States in the South, has been a long while in getting to diversified agriculture. It is just possible, however, that Florida has made more progress in this direction than have some other States of the South, where there still continues to be a very great deal of reliance on 'one crop' farming. Particular note should be made of the last sentence in the above quoted paragraph from Statistician Fleming's report, where he refers to 'the trend toward a better balanced production on the average farm, and away from a too great dependence upon some particular crop.' The tendency that is noted is in the right direction. Diversified crops give assurance of more profitable farming. The 'one crop' habit is disappearing. There are no regrets. Agricultural progress in Florida is to be highly commended. The demand that is being made on the farmers of this State for increased food supply is growing stronger and stronger with every year. It must be answered by more land being put into cultivation and by more of intensified production. Fruits and vegetables, dairy and poultry products, most of all, must be supplied, if not by Florida farmers, then by those of other States."

Highway Marking

An editorial in New England Homestead for July 11 says: "The cross-word puzzle has nothing on many highway markers to be found throughout the country. To-day when motor tourists are swarming over the highways in unprecedented numbers, the question of adequate highway marking designed to meet the needs of present day traffic should be given special attention. While there are maps and guide books in abundance, plainly marked, easily read standard highway markers along the trunk line highways are the best solution to the cross word puzzles the motorist is called upon to solve at almost every fork of the road or intersection. There are still far too many localities where the choice of the right road is left mainly to chance and to the motorist's 'hunch'. The average motorist is quick to appreciate highway service. There is no better way for a highway department in town, county or State to sell itself to the public than through just such activities as highway marking and providing dependable touring information. States known for their comprehensive marking systems are the ones receiving a large share of the motor tourist business."

Machinery on British Farms

Dr. J. B. Owen, director of the Institute of Agricultural Engineering, University of Oxford, in an article in Country Life (London) for July 11, says: "The Ministry of Agriculture has not only established, at Oxford, the Institute of Agricultural Engineering to investigate the problem of the application of engineering to agriculture, but it is also launching an extensive scheme for testing, by competent scientific

authority, all agricultural machinery. The purpose of such tests is to supply both the farmer and the manufacturer with information upon the general performance of any individual type of agricultural machine which may be submitted for test. It can be appreciated that every machine put on the market must finally reach a stage of which a scientific report on its performance is of the greatest value to the prospective buyer. Not to the buyer alone will this scheme be of value, but also to the manufacturer, who will be able to ascertain from the report where his machine is inefficient and where improvement of design may be secured. The Oxford Institute exists primarily, but by no means exclusively, for research. To the study of first principles it unites the more practical functions of testing, of advising and of educating. Demonstrations are at present being given in various parts of the country of the process which it has developed for the artificial drying of crops. The possibilities of wind power as a source of electricity are being investigated, and problems connected with sub-soiling and drainage are being attacked... It is also hoped to send out men qualified by special training for the work of carrying instruction and information to the farm....The day is possibly not far distant when power will be in much greater evidence on small farms....At the present time, the farmer can look forward to help in the choice of machinery in two directions. The growing volume of literature due to present investigations into the problems of agricultural implements and machines will not only tend to improve present designs, but data will be available to show whether any particular machine will perform a definite type of work. Secondly, the data placed at the farmer's disposal will enable him to exercise a far more instructed choice than ever before. The adoption of scientific mechanical methods will reduce the cost of production and lead to better farming."

Wheat for Export

An editorial in The Wall Street Journal for July 20 says: "How much wheat will the United States have for export this season? The question has essential importance not only as regards price of wheat but also as affecting the farm purchasing power. It is still debatable, for the surplus may range from nothing to 50,000,000 bushels -- according to circumstances. The crop is so near home needs that domestic consumption dictates. Ordinarily our domestic consumption is calculated at between 625,000,000 and 650,000,000 bushels. Perhaps this is because the 10-year average is about 625,000,000. That figure, however, includes the war period, when as a patriotic duty the people were asked to eat substitutes for meat. In one of these years the consumption was reduced to 565,000,000 bushels. Estimates based on a 10-year average will not do for any particular year because they do not take into account the increase in population, changing industrial conditions and other factors. Our increase in population ranges from 1½ to 2 per cent a year. In terms of wheat this would mean a minimum increase in consumption of 6,000,000 to 7,000,000 bushels of wheat every year. Last season the consumption for all purposes was around 670,000,000 bushels, which, allowing for the increase in population, was at about the same rate as that of the preceding year. With no great change in industrial conditions apparent, it is a fair conclusion that the consumption of wheat this year will be at least not less. Heretofore 75,000,000 bushels has been considered a safe carry-over at the end of the season. With our present population this would be about five weeks' supply. In the war period the reserve was cut closer, but war risks may be ignored in peace times. Probably any decline below the customary carry-over would quickly show in the price of wheat. A reserve of 75,000,000 bushels would come within the bounds of prudence.

Official figures forecast a total crop of 680,000,000 bushels. This would be just about the estimated amount necessary for domestic need, leaving nothing for export. A high price at home might restrict home consumption and a high price abroad might tempt exporters to cut seriously into the reserves. In this way 50,000,000 bushels of wheat might be squeezed out for export. But, on present crop figures, given normal consumption and a fair price, the outlook is for practically nothing for export."

Section 3
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

July 21: Chicago hog prices closed at $13.95 for the top, bulk of sales $12.50 to $13.70; medium and good beef steers $8 to $13.50; butcher cows and heifers $3.75 to $12.75; feeder steers $5.75 to $8.25; light and medium weight veal calves $9.50 to $12; fat lambs $13.25 to $15.15; feeding lambs $13 to $14.75; yearlings $9.75 to $13.25 and fat ewes $5 to $9.

East Shore Virginia Irish Cobbler potatoes sold at $5 to $6.25 per barrel in eastern markets; $5.50 to $5.60 f.o.b. In New York City Long Island Cobblers sold at $5 to $5.50 per barrel and sacked New Jersey Cobblers at $2.65 per 100 pounds. Georgia Elberta peaches mostly $2.25 to $2.75 per bushel basket and crate in consuming centers; $1.90 to $2.25 f.o.b. Macon. California Salmon Tint cantaloupes ranged $1.50 to $2.50 per standard 45 in leading markets. Georgia and South Carolina Tom Watson watermelons 22-30 pound average sold at $200 to $475 bulk per car in terminal markets. Delaware and Maryland Yellow Transparent apples $1 to $1.50 per bushel basket in eastern markets.

Grain prices quoted July 21: No.1 dark northern Minneapolis $1.59 to $1.77. No.2 red winter Chicago $1.51 to $1.58; St. Louis $1.63 to $1.65; No.2 hard winter Chicago $1.56 to $1.57 1/2; St. Louis $1.54 to $1.57; No.3 mixed corn Chicago $1.01 3/4; No.2 yellow corn Chicago $1.10; St. Louis $1.10; No.3 yellow corn Chicago $1.09; No.2 white corn St. Louis $1.07; No.3 white corn Chicago $1.06; No.3 white oats Chicago 41 3/4 to 44 1/2¢; St. Louis 46¢.

Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets declined 11 points, closing at 24.22¢ per lb. New York July future contracts down 20 points, closing at 23.50¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.).

Industrials and Railroads

Average closing price	July 21,	July 20,	July 21, 1924.
20 Industrials	134.93	135.00	99.02
20 R.R. stocks	98.91	99.28	89.15

(Wall St. Jour., July 22.)

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol.XVIII, No. 19 Section 1 July 23, 1925.

PACKERS' CASE The first drastic step by the District of Columbia Equity Court in pursuance of the decree of May 1, which suspended the consent decree of February 27, 1920, forcing the "Big Five" meat packers of Chicago to confine themselves to the meat business, was taken yesterday at Washington by Justice Jennings Bailey in an order discharging Henry W. Anderson, trustee, and the Illinois Merchants Trust Company, depository, for the Swift and Armour groups, and the Munsey Trust Company, trustees for the Morris group of packers. The trustees and the trust company which handled all stocks, bonds and evidence of ownership by the packers in unrelated lines, are directed to surrender such property to the original owners. This action by the court as it affects Armour & Co., Swift & Co., and Morris & Co., relieves them of the necessity of ridding themselves of all holdings unless related to the meat business. (Press, July 23.)

RUBBER RESTRICTIONS A London dispatch to the press to-day says: "The British Government does not intend to do anything toward removing the restriction upon the rubber output of the empire under the so-called Stevenson scheme, which has sent rubber prices rocketing and evoked protests from American tire makers and millions of car owners in the United States. Under this scheme the export of crude rubber from Malay and Ceylon is restricted. The Colonial Secretary, L. S. Amery, answering a written question from a member of the House of Commons, says that any sudden interference with the Stevenson scheme would involve an injustice to large numbers of individuals who had entered into contracts assuming that the scheme would be continued. There was no reason to believe that the British rubber producers in the territories where the scheme is enforced by law or in those voluntarily adhering elsewhere are dissatisfied with it. The Secretary adds that if conditions warranted a progressive increase in the amount exportable at the minimum duty August 1 and at succeeding quarterly intervals the British would soon be exporting to full capacity."

COOPERATION INSTITUTE MEETING A national union of farmers' associations to build up foreign trade for agricultural products was recommended yesterday to the American Institute of Cooperation at the University of Pennsylvania by William G. Marvin, vice president of the International Law Association. "There is great need for a world-wide vision among those who have been intrusted with marketing of products through such associations," Mr. Marvin said. "In exporting staple farm products such as grain, cotton and dairy products, farmers' organizations must carry on more direct dealing with consumers or manufacturers by eliminating middlemen in order to meet the growing competition of Canada, Argentina, Australia and other nations. Much can be done, however, to develop new outlets for specialty crops such as fruit, raisins and nuts." Export effort should not be confined to one country, Mr. Marvin pointed out, but a careful survey should be made of demand and sources of competition in all important buying countries in developing a constructive program. When a demand for a quality product is built up in several countries, it has a tendency to stabilize the outlet for this product and reduce chances for depressing the domestic market, he explained. (Press, July 23.)

Section 2

British Food Commission Report

Christopher Addison is the author of an extensive analytical review of the British Royal Commission on Food Prices in The Nineteenth Century and After for July. In this he says: "Two issues assert themselves throughout. They are the relative helplessness of the producer and of the consumer in the matter of price, and our alarmingly increasing dependence upon overseas supplies both of wheat and meat. With regard to the first, this Report supplies further and very disconcerting evidence of the growing coalescence and improved organization of the agencies which stand between the producer and the consumer, and of the toll they levy upon both alike. In the same way, also, the control of our overseas supplies is getting into fewer and fewer hands. The commission does not furnish any evidence of an insufficiency of world supply, but whilst 76 per cent of our wheat was home-grown seventy years ago, it has now come down to 24 per cent, and, indeed, in 1924 it was anticipated that, owing to the wet harvest and to other causes, it may have dwindled to 13 per cent. Anyhow, it is fair to say that the United Kingdom is dependent for four-fifths of its bread upon imported wheat. In the case of beef and mutton the same process is going on, although, happily, it has not advanced so far. The home supplies of beef have diminished from 62 per cent in 1907 to 52 per cent in 1924, and of mutton from 55 per cent to 45 per cent. London, however, stands by itself, for no less than five-sixths of its meat is obtained from foreign sources."

County Agent Farmers

An editorial in The Country Gentleman for July 25 says: "Few persons are better situated for getting a good perspective of farming than the county agent. In an ordinary county he will know how things are going with around a thousand farms and farm families. He can not help but have a pretty definite appreciation of the difficulties and disadvantages of farming as well as its possibilities. So it is rather significant that forty-two Ohio county agents have resigned since 1917 to take up farming--that is, nearly twenty-five per cent of all those engaged in county-agent work in that State in the past eight years. These men had an unusual chance of judging the desirability of farming as a business and as a life. It looked good enough for them to bet their future on it. This ought to go some distance toward answering two current aspersions: One that the county agent isn't willing to practice what he preaches; the other that farming offers no attraction to the brisk and ambitious young fellow to-day."

Farmers and the Tariff

An editorial in The Wall Street Journal for July 21 says: "It must be uphill work for the New York Times to make out anything like a case for the Democratic party to which it is traditionally attached. Certainly it will not do much in that way by an attempt to convert the farmer to a realization of the iniquities of the tariff. It says that the 'Middle West Republicans,' whose efforts to break up the Republican party so conspicuously failed last November, consider that 'the protective rates were framed to put money in New England pockets, while attempting to fob off western farmers with sham protective duties that did not and could not protect.' Under the McCumber act wheat was protected by a tariff of thirty cents a bushel, subsequently increased by the President, under the flexible provision, to forty-five cents. The other protection for the farmer seems anything but 'sham.' Some of the duties are corn, oats and rye, thirty cents a bushel; barley, twenty; cattle

from one and one-half to two cents a pound, according to weight; swine half a cent a pound, sheep $2 a head, dressed meats from three-quarters to four cents a pound. Horses $30 a head. Butter eight cents a pound, with other dairy and poultry products heavily taxed. Hay $4 a ton. Lemons two cents a pound. Wool from twelve to thirty-one cents a pound, according to grade. Fruits, berries and vegetables are taxed and nothing the farmer produces or could produce escapes, down to the lowly mushroom. Citrus fruit farmers of California benefit by a tax on lemons which shuts out the Italian trade. Manifestly, the lavishly protected farmer is not likely to sacrifice all this in order to get his annual suit of clothes a couple of dollars cheaper. In the highly improbable event of a tariff protest by the farmers it would not be 'New England' he would be fighting. Allowing that the farmer and his dependents number 35,000,000 people, there are something more than 80,000,000 people who are paying every day of their lives; and every meal of the day, to protect the farmer more highly than anybody else. The history of tariff legislation tells the story. Protection for manufacturers was a matter of dicker and compromise. The advocates of the farmer wrote their own schedule and there was no one to say them nay. For a party bankrupt in ideas and principles, drawing all its ammunition from insurgent Republicans, the tariff does not look promising for the Democrats. Something of an issue may be scared up between now and 1928, but the ordinarily level-headed New York Times should be able to see that the farmer is not likely to quarrel with his bread and butter."

Grain Marketing

An editorial in The Wall Street Journal for July 22 says: "Political talk of 'farm relief' and the necessity of agricultural cooperative associations being exempt from the anti-trust laws is again coming to the front. If farmers will learn from experience a splendid lesson is now ready for them. This is to be found in the year's work of the Grain Marketing Company, ending in its demise. Its formation as a $26,000,000 organization was in line with the political teaching that has been handed out to the farmers. It was the one and only method for them to market their grain and get all that was in it between producer and consumer. The fact that the marketing and distribution of grain is a business by itself, quite as much as raising it or making it into bread, was ignored in all these teachings. That there was any risk for the great amounts of capital necessary seemed beneath notice. Farmers were taught that the large spread between the farm price of a bushel of wheat and its price when made into loaves was, for the most part, taken from them without compensation. In past years there have been repeated efforts to organize the farmers into grain marketing companies, to save for themselves the cost of distribution. The most notable was floated about four years ago. For two years it raised money from the farmers and then went on the rocks, with not a single accomplishment of benefit to the farmers. It was a repetition on a large scale of what had been done in many smaller concerns. Aside from those that seem doomed from the start, the Grain Marketing Company stood out as something that would insure a fair trial to the theory of a nation-wide cooperative marketing company....This enterprise failed, not because of mismanagement, but because production, distribution and processing of wheat are different businesses; each is competitive, the two latter particularly. There are costs and risks in each and no undue profits in any, and no man or class of men can succeed in the entire field."

Highway and Railroad Transportation

Alfred H. Swayne, vice president, General Motors Corporation, in an article in Commerce and Finance for July 22, says: "The motor trucks and motor buses are going to put the railroads in their graves, if we listen to the pessimists. There is just enough truth and just enough seriousness in this situation to give it a semblance of reality. This new form of transportation has taken short haul business from the railroads, and will continue to take more and more. That, briefly, is the destructive side of the picture. It has a constructive side of which few people, apparently, are aware, because it is not sensational....In the day's news it was recorded that a group of authorized representatives of the railroads and the motor car industry, together with some of the leading merchants and motor vehicle operators, held a conference and took steps to study how the motor truck and the bus might be coordinated with rail transportation. This great conference was at the instigation of big business interests anxious to create a better public understanding of the problems of the railroads. The immediate result was the appointment of committees. Subsequently, committee reports were published in full or in part. But they were not read by the vast majority of newspaper readers. The automotive industry and the railroads have been and are working in complete harmony, for the automotive industry above all others is fully aware that it is one of the biggest customers of the railroads. If the automotive industry is to continue to grow and prosper, it must continue to have good service from the railroads. Bankrupt railroads can not render good service....It should be remembered in this connection that for over 75 years the railroads have specialized in selling transportation. That is their business--and they should know it better than any one else. There is a very definite way in which trucks and buses can be made to supplement--but not supplant--the transportation service the railroad renders. The problem has been to fit the two together, and under the circumstances its solution presents a huge field of endeavor for the best transportation engineers....This new transportation tool will never seriously compete for long haul through freight, heavy tonnage business or long passenger travel. One of the greatest contributions of the motor vehicles will be the relief they will afford railroads in reducing the congestion of freight at railroad terminals and releasing freight cars now held idle in terminals waiting to be loaded or unloaded. They will do more. They will create for themselves additional new types of business as their facilities for serving are enlarged. Directly or indirectly, however, the creation of this new business by motor vehicles will be reflected in the traffic of the railroads. Gradually there will be a shifting in the character and the complexion of this traffic of the railroads. As the railroads tie in closer and closer to this new form of transportation, they will rejuvenate themselves and increase their own power. In the end the total of freight tonnage and passenger mileage of the railroads and the motors will exceed even the wildest dreams of present day railroad men. Naturally, in the evolution which must come about, there will be a slow weeding out, as is always the case, for only the strongest can survive, or, said another way, only those who can serve best will be allowed to serve."

Implement Use

An editorial in The Country Gentleman for July 25 says: "' A farmer in Ohio can raise as much corn as he can cultivate, and if he has sixty acres of corn he can hardly afford to be without a two-row cultivator. Records kept by farmers in Greene and Medina Counties and summarized by rural economists at Ohio State University show that with a two-row

cultivator one man can cultivate ninety per cent more corn than with a one-row machine. The extra efficiency in labor will pay for the implement in less than three years.' The foregoing is quoted from a news bulletin sent out recently by the Extension Department of the Ohio State University. The facts are undoubtedly as stated, but it seems strange that it should be necessary to broadcast such a message about an implement which has been on the market for almost twenty years. That it is deemed necessary indicates how slowly new methods are adopted. Strange as it may seem, every farm implement has had to go through the same long period of probation before it has been finally accepted and made an acknowledged part of farming equipment. This has been the history of the grain harvester, the manure spreader, the cream separator and nearly every other important implement. One generation invents the machine, tests it, perfects it, but refuses to use it generally. Twenty years later the second generation, sons of those who tried and failed or were indifferent, take up the machine and make it a part of their regular equipment. The two-way cultivator is just beginning to come into its own. The tractor is another implement in the same class; it came on the market twenty-five years ago, but despite the most intensive educational propaganda made little headway until this year. Now all the tractor factories are busy. The tractor has been accepted, as usual, by the second generation. Before long there will be one on every farm. Two reasons prevent the adoption of new devices: One is the groping of inventors and manufacturers for the correct type and proper design; the other is the inertia of people in changing old habits and learning to operate new tools. All pioneering is slow and profitless to the pioneers. It is the second and third generations that reap the rewards."

Wool Branding Legislation The Pennsylvania Farmer for July 11 says: "The General Federation of Women's Clubs at a recent meeting indorsed the branding bill introduced in Congress last winter by Congressman Merritt, of Connecticut. This is the bill promoted by New England woolen manufacturers and shoddy interests. It permits the use of wool shoddy in fabrics labeled 'all wool.' Senator Capper introduced a revised truth in fabrics bill which had the approval of all the agricultural organizations. The National Grange has asked the women's clubs to state what influence induced them to favor the inferior bill which would benefit neither producer nor the consumer when they had an opportunity to go on record in favor of a real textile branding measure."

Section 3

Department of Agriculture An editorial in Engineering News-Record for July 16 refers to a series of road-grading articles by J.L.Harrison, of the Bureau of Public Roads, as follows: "Continuation of the earth-moving studies being published by the Bureau of Public Roads, its official journal, calls again for reference to the important character of these articles. They have now covered wheel scraper, Fresno scraper and elevating grader operations in their important ramifications. In all, the text published will equal about forty pages of Engineering News-Record. This is a book of respectable size. Indeed no equivalent treatise on light earth-moving operations can be secured. Again, also, we assert that highway contractors and engineers should not overlook these articles. They touch on work whose cost is more often poorly estimated than any other task in road building."

Section 4
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

July 22: Chicago hog prices closed at $14.05 for the top and $12.50 to $13.80 for the bulk. Medium and good beef steers $8 to $13.75; butcher cows and heifers $3.75 to $12.85; feeder steers $5.50 to $8.25; light and medium weight veal calves $9.50 to $11.75; fat lambs $13.25 to $15.25; feeding lambs $13 to $14.75; yearlings $5 to $9.

Trend of potato prices in city markets uncertain. Long Island Cobblers brought $5.25 to $5.75 in New York City. Kansas and Missouri stock $2.20 to $2.35 sacked per 100 pounds on the Chicago carlot market. Imperial Valley Salmon Tint canfaloupes ranged 50¢ to $1.50 lower at $1.75 to $2.50 per standard 45 in consuming centers. Georgia peaches sold in leading markets on about the same level as a week ago. Elbertas and Belles mostly $2.25 to $2.75 per bushel basket and carrier. Georgia and South Carolina Tom Watson watermelons, 22-30 pound average, $1.40 to $1.75 lower, closing at $175 to $500 bulk per car in terminal markets. New Jersey yellow onions $2.75 to $3 per bushel hamper in eastern cities.

Closing prices on 92 score butter: New York 43¢; Chicago 42 1/4¢; Philadelphia 44¢; Boston 44¢.

Grain prices quoted July 22: No.1 dark northern Minneapolis $1.57 to $1.75. No.2 red winter Chicago $1.54 1/2; St. Louis $1.59 to $1.64; Kansas City $1.58 to $1.60. No.2 hard winter Chicago $1.52 1/2 to $1.54; St. Louis $1.49 1/2; Kansas City $1.50 to $1.58. No.3 mixed corn Minneapolis $1.01. No.2 mixed corn Chicago $1.03 to $1.08 1/2; Kansas City $1.01 1/2. No.2 yellow corn Chicago $1.08 to $1.09 3/4; St. Louis $1.11; Kansas City $1.07. No.3 yellow corn Chicago $1.07 3/4; Minneapolis $1.06 1/2. No.2 white corn Chicago $1.07; St. Louis $1.05 1/2; Kansas City $1.02. No.3 white oats Chicago 44¢; Minneapolis 40 3/4¢; St. Louis (new) 45¢; No.2 white oats Kansas City 46¢.

Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets down 17 points, closing at 24.05¢ per lb. New York July future contracts down 17 points, closing at 23.33¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.).

Industrials and Railroads

Average closing price	July 22,	July 21,	July 22, 1924.
20 Industrials	133.87	134.93	99.36
20 R.R. stocks	98.61	98.91	89.37

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DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol.XVIII, No. 20 Section 1 July 24, 1925.

LOWDEN ON FARM MARKETING A Philadelphia dispatch to the press to-day states that former Governor Lowden of Illinois, speaking last night at the American Institute of Cooperation, said the farmers will get nowhere without organizing to dispose of their products. "No one, I think, who has observed the course of events in the last few years will deny that agriculture is sadly out of gear with the other parts of the structure," Mr. Lowden said. "I for one do not believe that it can regain its rightful place in this highly organized world except through organization itself. Agriculture has emerged from its primitive state," continued Mr. Lowden. "It must therefore conform to those practices which have been found necessary to the success of other great industries. In all other fields of commerce, unrestricted, free and open competition in the marketing of products has been gradually disappearing. I can foresee the day, I think, when everything produced upon the farm for the market will be marketed by the farmers themselves through an organization of their own creation."

COLLOIDAL CHEMISTRY RESEARCH The Baltimore Sun to-day states that the Johns Hopkins University yesterday renewed its bid for the institute for research in colloidal chemistry, which is to be established at an outstanding American University, in accordance with plans approved by the National Research Council.

PACKER DECREE Objection was filed July 23 by the Department of Justice against the action of the District of Columbia Supreme Court in relieving the Armour, Swift and Morris group of packers from trusteeship imposed by the packers consent decree. The consent decree, which was designed to separate the packers from unrelated lines of business, has been suspended by court order and the Government has appealed. Justice Bailey, however, has discharged the trustees and ordered the return by them of stocks, bonds and other holdings to the packers. (Press, July 24.)

ASHURST ON FOREST SERVICE An editorial in to-day's New York Times says: "Senator Ashurst's Latest attack upon the Forest Service must be taken with a grain of Arizona salt. Yet it gives color to Governor Pinchot's recent warning that a campaign 'to dismember the United States Forest Service is now being prepared at Washington.' Probably the worst thing that threatens it is a movement to transfer the service from the Agricultural to the Interior Department. When Congress meets in December advantage may be taken of strictures found in the report of a sub-committee of the Senate now engaged in investigating the public land system, including the forest reserves. There have been blunders in the Forest Service administration--its sincere friends would not deny that--but the policy of conservation has saved vast areas of the public domain from exploitation. It has far more supporters than enemies throughout the country and in President Coolidge an ardent and avowed champion....."

Section 2

Creamery Butter Consumption Economics

The July issue of the Monthly Labor Review contains a special article on the economics of creamery butter consumption, by Ethelbert Stewart, Commissioner of Labor Statistics, Department of Labor. In this article an address by the chief of the Bureau of Dairying of the Department of Agriculture, in which the consumption of creamery butter is related to the volume of employment, is reviewed. In commenting on the address and the interest shown in it by the agricultural press, Mr. Stewart says: "They show a growing appreciation of the position always taken by the Bureau of Labor Statistics that the earnings of thw workers, who constitute the largest numerical element of our population, can not be depressed, nor the volume of employment in industry decreased, without its reacting upon the whole range of business in the shape of decreased consumption and hence a forced lowering of prices to a point where industry and commerce are hit just as hard as the workers themselves are hit."

Farm Electrification Conference

A Harrisburg, Pa., dispatch to the press of July 23 states that the draft of a tentative order providing for rural electrification is to be sent power companies operating in Pennsylvania this week and is to be considered at a conference at Harrisburg next week between the Public Service Commission and representatives of the companies and rural interests. The draft provides for extension of electric lines in rural sections throughout Pennsylvania, unification of service in farming territory and fixing of uniform rates for such service. The plan would require power companies to extend lines into rural communities where the density of population is three or more consumers to the mile, and would provide that the rate shall cover the cost of needed capital for extension of the lines. The proposals were worked out by engineers of the Rural Electrification Survey conducted under supervision of the commission and the Giant Power Survey.

German Meat and Grain Tariffs

A Berlin dispatch to the press of July 23 states that the Government parties in committee, which have been discussing the new German customs tariff bill, have agreed to a compromise, which provides for a minimum tariff on cattle and sheep imported for slaughter of 13 marks per double hundredweight. Frozen meat will be duty free if sold at cost by the municipalities to the poor. To March 31, 1926, rye, barley, oats and buckwheat will pay 3 marks per double hundredweight, wheat 3½, maize 3.20, pork 21, bacon 24, lard 4, butter 22½, four 8, and canned meat and milk 40 marks.

Greece's Economic Position

The economic situation in Greece was profoundly affected during the past two years by the arrangement entered into between the Greek and Turkish Governments at the Lausanne convention in January, 1923, for the mutual interchange of their respective nationals. This condition was brought about as a climax of the unsuccessful war with Turkey and the determination of Turkey as a result of her victory to drive from her territory all people of Greek origin, although these people had resided in Turkey for centuries and were as much indigenous to the soil as any of the other peoples making up the Turkish Empire, according to advices received by Bankers Trust Company of New York from its foreign information service. In the two years which have elapsed since the arrangement at Lausanne, it has been necessary for the Greek Government to find homes for upwards of 1,300,000 refugees from East Thrace and Anatolia. On the other hand, under the terms of the agreement approximately 300,000 Turks

have gone from Greece into Turkey. The net increase in the population of Greece brought about by these events has been 18%. The immediate effect of the influx of the refugees on the internal conditions of Greece was very serious, the destitute condition of the greater number of them adding a further burden to the already depleted finances of the country. Imports of foodstuffs and clothing had to be paid for to a great extent out of the national treasury. However, with the aid of the Refugees Settlement Commission and the Refugee Loan which was concluded at the end of 1924, under the auspices of the League of Nations, most of the refugees have been settled on farms and in industries and have been transformed into a productive factor. The commission reports them as having proved to be laborious, intelligent and honest, and their contribution to the prosperity of the country is felt already in the increased industrial activity.

Living Cost in Foreign Countries

The semiannual study of the cost of living in foreign countries shows that since last September there has been a more or less marked upward trend in all countries, with the exception of Great Britain and India. In Italy the increase from August, 1924, to March, 1925, was over 17 per cent, while there was also a large increase in Bulgaria, Belgium, France, Ireland, Norway, and Sweden. In several of these countries the Government has taken measures toward lowering the cost of living. Rents are highest in those countries which experienced excessive post-war currency inflation and where the currency is now stabilized. In the other countries rents adjusted themselves two or three years ago to the higher level reached by other necessaries of life. (Monthly Labor Review,July.)

Nut Culture in Canada

Agricultural and Industrial Progress in Canada for July says: "Canada is coming more clearly to realize that her substantial import of nuts each year, amounting in value to about $5,000,000, is largely unnecessary, and that a large portion at least of the Canadian nut demand could be met by growing in suitable areas the best varieties of native and exotic species of nuts. Of recent years a small but growing band of enthusiasts in British Columbia have been devoting marked attention to the subject and extending the cult very widely, so that a substantial future industry is looked to there. Now the wide possibilities of growing nuts are receiving the expert attention of the Province of Ontario, which has issued a very comprehensive booklet of information for the encouragement and guidance of provincial growers....."

Postal Service

An editorial in The Wall Street Journal for July 23 says: "Opinions of the American Farm Bureau Federation, and its representative before the joint Congressional post office investigation committee, are subject to a discount--for cash. That bureau has not learned, and probably does not want to learn, that Congress can not give them something for nothing without taking the cost out of someone else's pocket. Our rural free delivery system is already sufficiently costly and the farm bureau proposes to 'reduce expenses' by extending it. Practically all the post office revenue comes from the cities. The rural post offices are for the most part run at a loss. The bureau proposes to reduce postal deliveries in city suburbs. In the best served part of Brooklyn, N.Y., near the business section, there are three deliveries a day. In any corresponding suburb of London there are eight deliveries a day, while the average for the suburbs of our cities is two. It should be multiplied by five to stimulate the use of the post office facilities. There is no end to the useful suggestions of the Farm Bureau Federation. Long ago the post office

was warned that its parcel business was really a subsidized competitor in the excellent and cheap service already provided by the express companies. .....Suppose we confine the service to parcels and limit the size? Why should not the express companies handle the business if they can do it better and cheaper, as they undoubtedly can and do? To reduce the post office deficit the farm bureau is in favor of increasing the number of rural post offices at present operated at a loss. It makes one single sound suggestion. This is that dead-head mail should pay the freight. Every department in Washington should be debited with the cost of carrying its official publications. Every Congressman and Senator should be debited with the correct postage on what he now sends out under a frank. It is too altruistic to ask him to pay for it, but the amount should be met by a specific appropriation of Congress turned over to the post office. There is much to be said for a fair and inexpensive system of rural free delivery even run at a loss. But the post office should be run as a business proposition and it should go after business where it can get it. Raising post cards from one cent to two has reduced the number used to much less than half, creating a deficit where there was a surplus. What business firm would have been guilty of a like imbecility?"

Potash Production in France

France's production of potash for the first three months of 1925 totaled 81,252 tons showing an increase of 5,428 tons over the same amount produced during the corresponding period in 1924. Exports of unrefined potash salts and fertilizers out of France during the first quarter of this year however amounted to 2,181,258 metric quintals or somewhat less than last year's exports of 2,318,848 metric quintals. France's best customers in the potash market, according to advices received by the Bankers Trust Company of New York from its French information service, are Belgium which during the first quarter of this year bought 1,865,050 quintals, Italy 92,080, United States, 85,756, Switzerland, 39,560 and Holland 20,515 quintals.

Rayon and Cotton

An editorial in The American Fertilizer for July 11 says: "The growing popularity of rayon--as artificial silk is now called--has undoubtedly had some effect on the demand for cotton yarns. It is not possible to forecast the ultimate effect which the new material may have on the sale of cotton, but it is not likely to be of great importance. There are four different methods of manufacturing rayon. The method in most general favor uses wood as the raw material. The other three methods use cotton linters. It is now announced that some of the factories using wood are experimenting with linters."

Rubber in Mexico

An editorial in The Journal of Commerce for July 23 says: "Looking over the rubber situation investigators of the Department of Commerce find that a good deal of land in Mexico is suitable for rubber growing. There are, in fact, two great 'rubber zones' which are accessible by railway, water communication or roads. Unfortunately, workmen are scarce in these zones, but they could be obtained in Central Mexico and transported to the rubber regions, while the department notes that wages do not run higher than about three pesos, or $1.50, a day in Mexico. Only three or four difficulties present themselves with the department's proposals. One is that the United States does not own or control Mexico. A second is that workmen in Central Mexico may not want to go to the hot rubber regions, in which case how will the department induce them to go? A third is that Americans who own land in Mexico have not been very happy of recent years

about the conditions surrounding their land holdings. How will Americans be induced to go into Mexico and buy and develop lands there? The truth is that no amount of Government reports on this or any other subject will overcome the essential facts in the problem, which are that if Americans want rubber there is nothing to prevent them from going where it is produced and buying it or producing it themselves. The notion that our Government will embark upon some imperialistic scheme in order to provide them with cheap rubber, if such an idea is entertained anywhere, may as well be laid aside."

Rubber Restriction

A London dispatch to the press of July 18 states that the India Rubber Manufacturers Association, representing 95 per cent of British manufacturers of all kinds of rubber articles, issued a manifesto July 17 demanding repeal, or drastic modification, of the scheme for the restriction of exports of crude rubber from Malay and Ceylon. The manifesto argues that it was never intended by the scheme to raise prices to their present level, but only to stabilize prices at about 15 pence per pound.

An editorial on the subject in The Journal of Commerce for July 20 says: "Farsighted supporters of the Stevenson rubber restriction scheme will probably be the first to deplore the excited speculation which has sent rubber prices to the highest point reached within a six-year period, thus advancing quotations to about six times the low figure recorded in May, 1924. Unless some method can be devised for counteracting these extreme price gyrations there is reason to fear that the restriction scheme will become so utterly discredited that its abandonment will be forced. News that a manifesto has been issued by the British India Rubber Manufacturers' Association demanding repeal or modification of the restriction plan coincides with the announcement that the Goodrich Company has again raised tire prices, which are now 50 per cent above May 1 figures. The doom of restriction is much more likely to be precipitated by these developments than by fulminations of the Department of Commerce or announced grandiose schemes to circumvent the British planters by growing rubber in the Philippines or in Dutch possessions. It is a genuine misfortune that the projectors of the Stevenson scheme were not able or did not try to guard against the situation that has developed, although they could not, of course, know that buying demand would take a great upward spurt just at the time when their plans for controlling supplies began to be effective.....What the rubber interests require is more information concerning prospective rubber needs. A return to unregulated production is no more to be desired than the present unregulated buying which threatens to discredit all restriction plans. If the world ever settles down again to systematic anticipation of future industrial needs, based on orderly buying demands, rubber producers and consumers, too, would profit by a regularization of output which would conserve raw materials and at the same time assure regular supplies."

Wool Imports

Wool imported into the United States approximated 130 million dollars in value in the fiscal year just ended despite the fact that the number of sheep in this country exceeds that of any other except China and Australia. Our wool consumption, says the Trade Record of The National City Bank of New York, continues in excess of pre-war years, having aggregated 538 million pounds in 1924 against an annual average of approximately 500 million pounds in the decade preceding the war.

Section 3
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products July 23: Chicago hog prices closed at $14.35 for the top; $12.90 to $14 for the bulk. Medium and good beef steers $8 to $13.75; butcher cows and heifers $3.75 to $13.25; feeder steers $5.50 to $8.25; light and medium weight veal calves $9 to $11.50.

Eastern Shore Virginia Irish Cobbler potatoes sold at $5.50 to $6.25 per barrel in eastern markets; $5.50 to $5.75 f.o.b. Southeastern Tom Watson watermelons closed about $100 lower in leading markets at $200 to $500 per carload. Georgia peaches sold in leading markets on about the same level as a week ago. Imperial Valley Salmon Tint cantaloupes ranged $1 to $2.50 in leading cities as compared with $2. to $3.50 a week ago.

Closing prices on 92 score butter: New York 43 1/2¢; Chicago 42 1/2¢; Philadelphia 44¢; Boston 44¢.

Grain prices quoted July 23: No.1 dark northern Minneapolis $1.56 1/2 to $1.75 1/2. No.2 red winter Chicago $1.55; St. Louis $1.61 to $1.63; Kansas City $1.60 to $1.61. No.2 hard winter Chicago $1.52 to $1.54; St. Louis $1.50 to $1.52; Kansas City $1.51 to $1.60. No.2 mixed corn Chicago $1.05; Kansas City $1.02 1/2. No.2 yellow corn Chicago $1.08 to $1.10; St. Louis $1.10; Kansas City $1.08. No.3 yellow corn Chicago $1.08. No.2 white corn Chicago $1.06; St. Louis $1.08; Kansas City $1.03. No.3 white oats Chicago 44 1/2¢; St. Louis 46¢; No.2 white oats Kansas City 46¢.

Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets advanced 110 points, closing at 25.15¢ per lb. New York October future contracts advanced 131 points, closing at 24.91¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.).

Industrials and Railroads

Average closing price	July 23,	July 22,	July 23, 1924
20 Industrials	135.33	133.87	99.40
20 R.R. stocks	99.19	98.61	89.60

(Wall St. Jour., July 24.)